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BEÓWULF.

I. TEXT:

Edited from M. Heyne

BY

JAMES ALBERT HARRISON,

PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AND MODERN LANGUAGES IN WASHINGTON AND
LEE UNIVERSITY; AUTHOR OF "A HISTORY OF SPAIN,"
"A FRENCH SYNTAX," ETC., ETC.



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1882.

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NOTE.

THE present work, carefully edited from Heyne's fourth edition, (Paderborn, 1879), is designed primarily for college classes in Anglo-Saxon, rather than for independent investigators or for seekers after a restored or ideal text. The need of an American edition of "Beowulf" has long been felt, as, hitherto, students have had either to send to Germany for a text, or secure, with great trouble, one of the scarce and expensive English editions. Heyne's first edition came out in 1863, and was followed in 1867 and 1873 by a second and a third edition, all three having essentially the same text.

So many important contributions to the "Beowulf" literature were, however, made between 1873 and 1879 that Heyne found it necessary to put forth a new edition (1879). In this new, last edition, the text was subjected to a careful revision, and was fortified by the views, contributions, and criticisms of other zealous scholars. In it the collation of the unique "Beowulf" Ms. (Vitellius A. 15: Cottonian MSS. of the British Museum), as made by E. Kölbing in Herrig's *Archiv* (Bd. 56; 1876), was followed wherever the present condition of the Ms. had to be discussed; and the researches of Bugge, Rieger, and others, on single passages, were made use of. The discussion of the metrical structure of the poem, as occurring in the second and third editions, was omitted in the fourth, owing to the many controversies in which the subject is still involved. The present editor has thought it best to do the same, though, happily, the subject of Old English *Metrik* is undergoing a steady illumination through the labors of Schipper and others.

Some errors and misplaced accents in Heyne's text have been corrected in the present edition, in which, as in the general revision of the text, the editor has been most kindly aided by Prof. J. M. Garnett, late Principal of St. John's College, Maryland.

In the preparation of the present school edition it has been thought best to omit Heyne's notes, as they concern themselves principally with conjectural emendations, substitutions of one reading for another, and discussions of the condition of the Ms. Until Wücker's text and the photographic fac-simile of the original Ms. are in the hands of all scholars, it will be better not to introduce such matters in the school room, where they would puzzle without instructing.

A *Glossary*, carefully translated from Heyne by the editor and Prof. Robert Sharp of the University of Louisiana, will, it is hoped, speedily follow the text as here presented.

For convenience of reference, the editor has added a head-line to each "fit" of the poem, with a view to facilitate a knowledge of its episodes.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY,
LEXINGTON, VA., June, 1882.

DEDICATED
TO
PROFESSOR F. A. MARCH,
OF
LAFAYETTE COLLEGE, PA.

BEÓWULF.

I. THE PASSING OF SCYLD.

HWÄT! we Gär-Dena in geär-dagum
þeód-cyninga þrym gefrunon,
hū þā äðelingas ellen fremedon.
Oft Scyld Scēfing sceadēna þreátum,
5 monegum mægðum meodo-setla ofteáh.
Egsode eorl, syððan ærest wearð
feá-sceaft funden: he þas frōfre gebād,
weðx under wolenum, weorð-myndum ðāh,
ðð þät him æghwylc þāra ymb-sittendra
10 ofer hron-rāde hýran scolde,
gomban gyldan: þät wäs gōd cyning!
þām eafera wäs äfter cenned
geong in geardum, þone god sende
folce tō frōfre; fyren-þearfe ongeat,
15 þät hie ær drugon aldor-leáse
lange hwile. Him þas līf-freá,
wuldres wealdend, worold-āre forgeaf;
Beówulf wäs breme (blæd wide sprang),
Scyldes eafera Scede-landum in.
20 Swā sceal *geong guma* gōde gewyrcean,
fromum feoh-giftum on fäder *wine*,
þät hine on ylde eft gewunigen
wil-gesiðas, þonne wīg cume,
leóde gelæsten: lof-dædum sceal
25 in mægða gehwære man geþeón.
Him þā Scyld gewät tō gescäp-hwile
fela-hrōr fēran on freán wäre;
hi hyne þā ätbæron tō brimes faroðe,

swæse gesfðas, swâ he selfa bâd,
 30 þenden wordum weold wine Scyldinga,
 leóf land-fruma lange âlte.
 Þær ät hýðe stôd hringed-stefna,
 ïsig and ûtfûs, äðelinges fär;
 â-lêdon þâ leófne þeoden,
 35 beága bryttan on bearm scipes,
 mærne he mäste. Þær wäs mädma fela,
 of feor-wegum frätwa gelæded:
 ne hýrde ic cymlicor ceól gegyrwan
 hilde-wæpnum and heaðo-wædum,
 40 billum and byrnum; him on bearme läg
 mädma mänigo, þâ him mid scoldon
 on flôdes æht feor gewitan.
 Nalas hi hine lässan lâcum teódan,
 þeód-gestreónum, þonne þâ dydon,
 45 þe hine ät frumsceafte forð onsendon
 ænne ofer fýðe nmbor wesende:
 þâ gyt hie him åsetton segen gyldenne
 heâh ofer heáfod, lêton holm berân,
 geâfon on gâr-secg: him wäs geðmor sefa,
 50 murnende môd. Men ne cunnon
 secgan tô sôðe sêle rædenne,
 hâleð under heofenum, hwâ þäm hläste onfêng.

II. THE HALL HEOROT.

þâ wäs on burgum Beówulf Scyldinga;
 leóf leód-cyning, longe þrage
 55 folcum gefræge (fäder ellor hwearf,
 aldon of earde), ðôð þät him eft onwôc
 heâh Healfdene; heóld þenden lifde,
 gamol and gûð-reôw, glâde Scyldingas.
 þäm feówer hearn forð-gerîmed

60 in worold wðeun, weoroda ræswan,
 Heorogár and Hrðögár and Hálga til ;
 hýrde ic, þät Elan cwén *Ongenþeówes wäs*
 Heaðoscilfinges heals-gebedde.

þá wäs Hrðögáre here-spêd gyfen,
 65 wiges weorð-mynd, þät him his wine-mágas
 georne hýrdon, ðð þät seó geogoð geweðx,
 mago-driht micel. Him on mðd bearn,
 þät heal-reced hâtan wolde,
 medo-ärn micel men gewyrcean,

70 þone yldo bearn æfre gefruon,
 and þær on inian eall gedælan
 geongum and ealdum, swyle him god sealde,
 buton fole-scare and feorum gumena.

þá ic wîde gefrägn weore gebannan
 75 manigre mægðe geond þisne middan-geard,
 fole-stede' frätwan. Him on fyrste gelomp
 ädre mid yldum, þät hit wearð eal gearo,
 heal-ärna mæst; scðp him Heort naman,
 se þe his wordes geweald wîde hæfde.

80 He beót ne álêh, beágas dælde,
 sine ät symle. Sele hlifade
 heáh and horn-geáp: heaðo-wylma bâd,
 lâðan lîges; ne wäs hit lenge þá gen.
 þät se eeg-hete âðum-swerian

85 äfter wäl-nîðe wäcnan seolde.
 þá se ellen-gæst earfoðlîce
 þrage geþolode, se þe in þýstrum bâd,
 þät he dôgora gehwam dreám gehýrde
 hlûdne in healle; þær wäs hearpan swêg,

90 swutol sang scôpes. Sägde se þe cûðe
 frum-sceaft fira feorran recean,
 cwäð þät se älmihtiga eorðan worhte,
 wlite-beorhtne wang, swâ wäter bebûgeð,
 gesette sige-hrêðig sunnan and mðnan

95 leóman tō leóhte land-būendum,
 and gefrätwade foldan sceátas
 leomum and leáfum ; líf eác gesceðp
 cynna gehwylcum, þára þe cwice hwyrfað.
 Swā þā driht-guinan dreánum lifdon
 100 eádiglice, ðð þät án ongan
 fyrne fremmian, feónd on helle :
 wäs se grimma gäst Grendel hâten,
 mære mearc-stapa, se þe mōras heóld,
 fen and fästen ; fífel-cynnes eard
 105 wou-sælig wer weardode hwile,
 siððan him scyppend forscrifen häfde.
 In Caines cynne þone cwealm gewräc,
 èce drihten, þäs þe he Abel slög ;
 ne gefeah he þære fæhðe, ac he hine feor forwräc,
 110 metod for þý māne man-cynne fram.
 þanon untydras ealle onwōcon,
 eotenas and ylfe and orcnéas,
 swylce gigantas, þā wið gode wunnon
 lange þrage ; he him þäs leán forgeald.

III. GRENDEL's VISITS.

115 GEWÄT þā neósian, syððan niht becom,
 heán hûses, hû hit Hring-Dene
 äfter beór-þege gebün häfdon.
 Fand þā þær inne äðelinga gedriht
 swefan äfter symble ; sorge ne cûðon,
 120 won-sceaft wera. Wiht unhælo
 grim and grædig gearo sôna wäs,
 reóc and rêðe, and on räste genam
 þritig þegna : þanon eft gewât
 hûðe hrêmig tō hám faran,
 125 mid þære wäl-fylle wica neósan.

þā wäs on uhtan mid ær-däge
 Grendles gūð-cräft gumum undyrne:
 þā wäs äfter wiste wōp up áhafen,
 micel morgen-swēg. Mære þeóden,
 130 äðeling ær-gōd, unblīðe sät,
 þolode þryð-swyð, þegn-sorge dreáh,
 syððan hie þās lāðan lāst sceáwedon,
 wergan gāstes; wäs jät gewin tō strang,
 lāð and longsum. Näs hit lengra fyrst,
 135 ac ymb áne niht eft gefremede
 morð-beala māre and nō mearn fore
 fæhðe and fyrne; wäs tō fäst on þām.
 þā wäs eáð-fynde, þe him elles hwær
 gerūmlīcor räste sōhte,
 140 bed äfter būrum, þā him gebeácnod wäs,
 gesägd sōðlice sweotolan tācne
 heal-þegnes hete; heóld hine syððan
 fyr and fästor, se þām feónde ätwand.
 Swā rīxode and wið rihte wan
 145 ána wið eallum, ðð jät idel stōd
 hūsa sēlest. Wās seó hwīl micel:
 twelf wintra tīd torn geþolode
 wine Scyldinga, weána gehwelcne,
 sīdra sorga; forþam syððan wearð
 150 ylda bearnum undyrne cōð,
 gyddnum geðmore, þätte Grendel wan
 hwile wið Hrðögár;— hete-nfðas wāg,
 fyrne and fæhðe fela missera,
 singale säce, sibbe ne wolde
 155 wið manna hwone mägenes Deniga
 feorh-bealo feorran, feó þingian,
 ne þær nænig witena wēnan þorste
 beorhtre bōte tō banan folmūm;
 atol äglæca éhtende wäs,
 160 deorc deáð-scūa duguðe and geogoðe,

seomade and syrede. Sin-nihte heold
 mistige mōras; men ne cunnon,
 hwyder hel-rūnan hwyrftum scriðað.
 Swā fela fyrena feónd man-cynnes,
 165 atol ân-gengea, oft gefremede
 heardra hýnða; Heorot eardode,
 sinc-fāge sel sweartum nihtum
 (nō he þone gif-stōl grētan mōste,
 māððum for metode, ne his myne wisse);
 170 þät wās wræc micel wine Scyldinga,
 mōdes brecða. Monig-oft gesät
 rīce tō rūne; ræd eahtedon,
 hwāt swið-ferhðum sēlest wāre
 wið fær-grynum tō gefremmanne.
 175 Hwílum hie gehēton ät härg-trafum
 wig-woerðnnga, wordum bædon,
 þät him gāst-bona geōce gefremede
 wið þeód-þreáum. Swylc wās þeaw hyra,
 hæðenra lyht; helle gemundon
 180 in mōd-sefan, metod hie ne cūðon,
 dæda dēmend, ne wiston hie drihten god,
 ne hie hāru heofena helm hērian ne cūðon,
 wuldres waldend. Wā bið þām þe sceal
 þurh sliðne nīð sāwle bescūfan
 185 in fȳres fāðm, frōfre ne wēnan,
 wihte gewendan; wel bið þām þe mōt
 äfter deāð-dāge drihten sēcean
 and tō fāder fāðmum freoðo wilnian.

IV. HYGELAC'S THANE.

Swā þā mael-ceare maga Healfdenes
 190 singala seáð; ne mihte snotor häleð
 weán onwendan: wās þät gewin tō swýð,
 lāð and longsum, þe on þā leóde becom,

nýd-wraeu nýð-grim, niht-bealwa mæst.
 þät fram hám gefrägn Higeláces þegn,
 195 god mid Geátum, Grendles dæda :
 se wäs mon-cynnes mägenes strengest
 on þám däge þysses lifes,
 ädele and eácen. Hêt him ýð-lidan
 godne gegyrgan; ewäð he gûð-eyning
 200 ofer swan-ráde sêcean wolde,
 mærne þeóden, þâ him wäs manna þearf.
 þone sið-fät him snotere ceorlas
 lyt-hwon lôgon, þeáh he him leóf wäre ;
 hwetton higerðfne, hael sceáwedon.
 205 Häfde se goda Geáta leóda
 cempan geeorone, þâra þe he eñoste
 findan mihte; fiftena sum
 sund-wudu söhte; seeg wîsade,
 lagu-eräftig mon, land-gemyreu.
 210 Fyrst forð gewât: flota wäs on ýðum,
 bât nnder beorge. Beornas gearwe
 on stefn stigon; streámas wundon
 sund wið sande; secgas bæron
 on bearm nacan beorhte frätwe,
 215 gûð-searo geatolie; guman út seufon,
 weras on wil-sið wudu bundenne.
 Gewât þâ ofer wæg-holm winde gefýsed
 flota fâmig-heals fugle gelicost,
 ðð þät ymb ân-tid ððres dôgores
 220 wunden-stefna gewaden häfde,
 þät þâ lîðende land gesâwon,
 brim-elifu blican, beorgas steápe,
 side sæ-nässas: þâ wäs sund liden,
 eoletes ät ende. þanon up hraðe
 225 Wedera leóde on wang stigon,
 sæ-wudu seldon (syrean hrysedon,
 gûð-gewædo); gode þancedon,

þäs þe him ȳð-lâde eáðe wnrdon.
 þâ of wealle geseah weard Seildinga,
 230 se þe holm-clifu healdan scolde,
 beran ofer bolcan beorhte randas,
 fyrd-searu fûslîcu; hine fyrwyt brâc
 môd-gehygdum, hwât þâ men wæron.
 Gewât him þâ tô waroðe wicge rîdan
 235 þegn Hrðögâres, þrymmum cwehte
 mägen-wudu mundum, meðel-wordum frâgn:
 " Hwât syndon ge searo-hâbbendra
 " byrnm werede, þe þus brontne ceól
 " ofer lagu-stræte lædan cwômon,
 240 " hider ofer holmas *helmas bæron?*
 " Ic wäs ende-sæta, æg-wearde heôld,
 " þät on land Dena lâðra nænig
 " mid scip-herge sceððan ne meahte.
 " Nô her cûðlicor cuman ongunning
 245 " lind-hâbbende; ne ge leáfnis-word
 " gûð-fremmendra gearwe ne wisson,
 " mâga gemêdu. Næfre ic mâran geseah
 " eorla ofer eorðan, þonne is eówer sum,
 " secg on searwum; nis þät seld-guma
 250 " wæpnum geworðad, nâfne him his wlite leóge,
 " ænlîc an-sýn. Nu ic eówer sceal
 " frum-cyn witan, ær ge fyr heonan
 " leáse sceáweras on land Dena
 " furður fêran. Nu ge feor-bûend
 255 " mere-lîðende mînne gehýrað
 " ân-fealdne geþôht: ðfest is sêlest
 " tô gecýðanne, hwanan eówre cyme syndon."

V. THE ERRAND.

Him se yldesta andswarode,
 werodes wisa word-hord onleác :

260 " We synt gum-cynnes Geáta leóde
 " and Higeláces heorð-geneátas.
 " Wäs mìn fäder folcum gecýðed,
 " äðele ord-fruma Eegþeów hâten ;
 " gebâd wintra worn, ær he on weg hwurfe,

265 " gamol of geardum ; hine gearwe geman
 " witenâ wel-hwylc wide geond eorðan.—
 " We þurh holdne hige hlâford þinne,
 " sunu Healsdenes, sêcean cwðmon,
 " leód-gebyrgean : wes þn ûs lârena gôd !

270 " Habbað we tô þám märan micel ærende
 " Deniga freán ; ne sceal þær dyrne sum
 " wesan, þäs ic wêne. Þu wâst, gif hit is,
 " swâ we sôðlice secgan hýrdon,
 " þât mid Scyldingum sceada ic nât hwylc,

275 " deógol dæd-hata, deorcum nihtum
 " eáweð þurh egsan uncûðne nîð,
 " hýnðu and hrâ-fyl. Ic þäs Hrôðgâr mäg
 " þurh rûmne sefan ræd gelæran,
 " hû he frôd and gôd feónd oferswýðeð,

280 " gyf him ed-wendan æfre scolde
 " bealuwa bisigu, bôt eft cuman
 " and þa cear-wylmas côlran wurðað ;
 " oððe â syððan earfoð-þrage,
 " þreá-nýd þolað, þenden þær wunað

285 " on heâh-stede hûsa sêlest."

Weard maðelode, þær on wicge sät
 ombeht unforht : " Æghwâðres sceal
 " scearþ scyld-wiga gescâd witan,
 " worda and worca se þa wel þenceð.

290 " Ic þät gehýre, þät þis is hold weorod
 " freán Scyldinga. Gewítæd forð beran
 , " wæpen and gewædu, ic eów wísigi:
 " swylce ic magu-þegnas mîne hâte
 " wið feónda gehwone flotan eówerne,
 295 " niw-tyrwedne nacan on sande
 " árum healdan, ðð þät eft byreð
 " ofer lagn-streámas leófne mannan
 " wudu wunden-hals tō Weder-mearce.
 " Gûð-fremmendra swylcum gifeðe bið,
 300 " þät þone hilde-ræs hâl gedígeð."
 Gewiton him þâ fêran (flota stille bâd,
 seomode on sâle sîd-fâðmed scyp,
 on ancre fâst); eofor-lîc sciônon
 ofer hleór-beran gehroden golde
 305 fâh and fýr-heard, ferh wearde heôld.
 Gûðmôde grummon, guman onetton,
 sigon ätsomne, ðð þät hy säl timbred
 geatolîc and gold-fâh ongytan mihton;
 þät wâs fore-mærost fold-bûendum
 310 receda under roderum, on þäm se rîca bâd;
 lixte se leóma ofer landa fela.
 Him þâ hilde-deór hof môdigra
 torht getæhte, þät hie him tō mihton
 gegnum gangan; gûð-beorna sunn
 315 wicg gewende, word äfter cwâð:
 " Mæl is me tō fêran; fäder alwalda
 " mid ár-stafum eówic gehealde
 " sîða gesunde! ic tō sæ wille,
 " wið wrâð werod wearde healdan."

VI. BEÓWULF'S SPEECH.

320 STRÆT wäs stân-fâh, stîg wîsode
 gumum ätgädere. Gûð-byrne scân
 heard hond-locen, hring-îren scîr
 song in searwum, þâ hie tô sele furðum
 in hyra gryre-geatwum gangan cwðmon.

325 Setton sæ-mêðe sîde scyldas,
 rondas regn-hearde wið þâs recedes weal,
 bugon þâ tô bence; byrnan hringdon,
 gûð-searo guinenâ; gâras stôdon,
 sæ-manna scaro, samod ätgädere,

330 äsc-holt ufan græg: wäs se ïren-þreát
 wæpnum gewurðad. þâ þær wlone häleð
 oret-mecgas äfter ädelum frâgn:
 “Hwanon ferigeað ge fätte scyldas,
 “græge syrcan and grîm-helmas,

335 “here-sceafta heáp?— Ic eom Hrôðgâres
 “âr and ombiht. Ne seah ic el-þeódige
 “þus manige men môdiglicran.
 “Wên’ ic þät ge for wlenco, nalles for wræc-siðum,
 “ac for hige-þrymmum Hrôðgâr sôhton.”

340 Him þâ ellen-rôf andswarode,
 wlanc Wedera leôd word äfter spräc,
 heard under helme: “We synt Higelâces
 “beôd-geneátas; Beówulf is mîn nama.
 “Wille ic åsecgan suna Healfdenes,

345 “mærum þeôdne mîn ærende,
 “aldre þînum, gif he ûs geunnan wile,
 “þät we hine swâ gôdne grêtan môton.”
 Wulfgår maðelode (þät wäs Wendla leôd,
 wäs his môd-sefa manegum gecyðed,

350 wig and wîs-dôm): “ic þâs wine Deniga,
 “freán Scildinga frinan wille,

“ beága bryttan, swâ þu bêna eart,
 “ þeóden mærne ymb jînne sîð;
 “ and þe þâ andsware ädre gecyðan,
 355 “ þe me se gôda ágifar þenceð.”
 Hwearf þâ hrädlîce, þær Hrôðgâr sät,
 eald and unhâr mid his eorla gedriht;
 eode ellen-rôf, þât he for eaxlum gestôd
 Deniga freáu, cûðe he duguðe þeáw.
 360 Wulfgâr maðelode tô his wine-drihtne:
 “ Her syndon geferede feorran cumene
 “ ofer geofenes begang Geáta leóde:
 “ þone yldestan oret-mecgas
 “ Beówulf nemnað. Hy bênan synt,
 365 “ þât hie, þeóden mîn, wið þe môton
 “ wordum wrixlan; nô þu him wearne geteôh,
 “ þînra gegn-ewida glädnian, Hrôðgâr!
 “ Hy on wîg-geatwum wyrðe þinceað
 “ eorla geæhtlan; hâru se alðor deáh,
 370 “ se þæm heaðo-rincum hider wîsade.”

VII. HROTHGAR'S WELCOME.

HRÔÐGÂR maðelode, helm Scyldinga:
 “ Ic hine cûðe cniht-wesende.
 “ Wâs his eald-fäder Ecgþeó hâten,
 “ þäm tô hâm forgeaf Hrêðel Geáta
 375 “ ângan dôhtor; is his easora nu
 “ heard her cumen, sôhte holdne wine.
 “ Þonne sägdon þât sæ-lîðende,
 “ þâ þe gif-sceattas Geáta fyredon
 “ þyder tô þance, þât he þrittiges
 380 “ manna mägen-eräft on his mund-gripe
 “ heaðo-rôf hâbbe. Hine hâlig god
 “ for âr-stafun ûs onsende,

“tō West-Denum, þās ic wēn hābbe,
 “wið Grendles gryre: ic þām gōdan sceal
 385 “for his mōd-þrāce mādmas beódan.
 “Beō þu on ðfeste, hāt hig in gān,
 “seón sibbe-gedriht samod ätgädere;
 “gesaga him eāc wordum, þāt hie sint wil-cuman
 “Deniga leódum.” þā wið duru healle
 390 Wulfgār eode, word inne Ȅbeád:
 “Eów hēt seegan sige-drihten mān,
 “aldor Eást-Dena, þāt he eówer äðelu can
 “and ge him syndon ofer sæ-wylmas,
 “heard-hiegende, hider wil-cuman.
 395 “Nu ge mōton gangan in eówrum gāð-geatawum,
 “under here-grāman, Hrōðgār geseón;
 “lætað hilde-bord her onbidian,
 “wudu wāl-sceaftas, worda geþinges.”
 Arās þā se rīca, ymb hine rinc manig,
 400 þryðlic þegna heáp; sume þær bidon,
 heaðo-reáf heóldon, swā him se hearda bebeád.
 Snyredon ätsomne, þā secg wīsode
 under Heorotes hrōf; hyge-rōf eode,
 heard under helme, þāt he on heoðe gestōd.
 405 Beówulf maðelode (on him byrne scān,
 searo-net seówed smiðes or-þancum):
 “Wes þu Hrōðgār hāl! ic eom Higelāces
 “mæg and mago-þegn; hābbe ic mærða fela
 “ongunnen on geogoðe. Me wearð Grendles þing
 410 “on mānre êðel-tyrf undyrne cūð:
 “seogað sæ-līðend, þāt þes sele stande,
 “reced sēlestā, rinca gehwylcum
 “īdel and unnyt, siððan æfen-leóht
 “under heofenes hādor beholen weorðeð.
 415 “þā me þāt gelærdon leóde mine,
 “þā sēlestā, snotere ceorlas,
 “þeóden Hrōðgār, þāt ic þe sōhte;

“ forþan hie mägenes cräft mînne cûðon :
 “ selfe ofersâwon, þâ ic of searwum cwom,
 420 “ fâh from feóndum, þær ic fîse geband,
 “ yðde eotena cyn, and on yðum slôg
 “ niceras nihtes, nearo-þearfe dreâh,
 “ wrâc Wedera nið (weán âhsodon)
 “ forgrand gramum ; and nu wið Grendel sceal,
 425 “ wið þam aglæcan, âna gehegan
 “ þing wið þyrse. Ic þe nu þâ,
 “ brego Beorht-Dena, biddan wille,
 “ eodor Scyldinga, ânre bêne ;
 “ þât þu me ne forwyrne, wigendra hleð,
 430 “ freó-wine folca, nu ic þus feorran com,
 “ þât ic môte âna and mînra eorla gedryht,
 “ þes hearda heáp, Heorot fælsian.
 “ Hâbbe ic eác geâhsod, þât se äglæca
 “ for his won-hydum wæpna ne rêceð ;
 435 “ ic þât þonne forhicge, swâ me Higelâc sîe,
 “ mîn mon-drihten, môdes bliðe,
 “ þât ic swoord bere oððe sîdne scyld
 “ geolo-rand tô gûðe ; ac ic mid grâpe sceal
 “ fôn wið feónde and ymb feorh sacan,
 440 “ lâð wið lâðum ; þær gelýfan sceal
 “ dryhtnes dôme se þe hine deáð nimeð.
 “ Wên’ ic þât he wille, gif he wealdan môt,
 “ in þam gûð-sele Geátena leôde
 “ etan unforhte, swâ he oft dyde
 445 “ mägen Hrêðmanna. Nâ þu mînne þearft
 “ hafalan hýdan, ac he me habban wile
 “ dreóre fâhne, gif mec deáð nimeð,
 “ byreð blôdig wâl, byrgean þenceð,
 “ eteð ân-genga unmurnlîce,
 450 “ mearcað môr-hôpu : nô þu ymb mînes ne þearft
 “ lîces feorme leng sorgian.
 “ Onsend Higelâce, gif mec hild nime,

“ beadu-scrûda betst, þät mîne breóst wereð,
 “ hrägla sêlest; þät is Hrêðlan lâf,
 455 “ Wêlandes geweorc. Gæð à Wyrd swâ hiô scel ! ”

VIII. HROTHGAR TELLS OF GRENDEL.

HRÖÐGÂR maðelode, helm Scyldinga :
 “ for were-fyhtum þu, wine mîn Beówulf,
 “ and for âr-stafum ûsic sôhtest.
 “ Geslôh þin fäder fæhðe mæste,
 460 “ wearð he Heaðolâfe tô hand-bonan
 “ mid Wilfingum; þâ hine Wedera cyn
 “ for here-brôgan habban ne mihte.
 “ þanon he gesôhte Sûð-Dena folc
 “ ofer ýða geweale, Âr-Scyldinga ;
 465 “ þâ ic furðum weôld folce Deninga,
 “ and on geogoðe heôld gimme-rîce
 “ hord-burh häleða: þâ wäs Heregâr deâd,
 “ mîn yldra mæg unlifigende,
 “ bearn Healfdenes. Se wäs betera þonne ic !
 470 “ Siððan þâ fæhðe feô þingode ;
 “ sende ic Wylfingum ofer wâteres hrycg
 “ ealde mâdmas: he me âðas swôr.
 “ Sorh is me tô secganne on sefan mînum
 “ gumena ængum, hwât me Grendel hafað
 475 “ hýnðo on Heorote mid his hete-þancum,
 “ fær-nîða gefremed. Is mîn flet-werod,
 “ wîg-heáp gewanod; hie Wyrd forsweôp
 “ on Grendles gryre. God eâðe mæg
 “ þone dol-scaðan dæda getwæfan !
 480 “ Ful oft gebeôtedon beôre druncne
 “ ofer ealo-wæge oret-mecgas,
 “ þät hie in beôr-sele bîdan woldon
 “ Grendles gûðe mid gryrum ecka.

“ þonne wäs þeos medo-heal on morgen-tid,
 485 “ driht-sele dreór-fäh, þonne däg lixte,
 “ eal bene-þelu blöde bestýmed,
 “ heall heoru-dreore: áhþe ic holdra þý läs,
 “ deórre duguðe, þe þa deáð fornam.
 “ Site nu tō synile and onsæl meoto,
 490 “ sige-hrêð seegum, swâ þin sefa hwette !”
 þa wäs Geát-mäcgum geador ätsomne
 on beór-sele bene gerýmed ;
 þær swið-ferhðe sittan eodon
 þryðum dealle. Þegn nytte beheöld,
 495 se þe on handa bär hroden ealo-wæge,
 scencte seir wered. Seop hwílum sang
 hâdor on Heorote ; þær wäs häleða dreám,
 duguð unlytel Dena and Wedera.

IX. HUNFERTH OBJECTS TO BEÓWULF.

HÛNFERÐ maðelode, Ecglâfes bearu,
 500 þe ät fôtum sät freán Scyldinga ;
 onband beadlu-rûne (wäs him Beówulfes sîð,
 môdges mere-faran, micel äf-þunca,
 forþon þe he ne ûðe, þât ænig ððer man
 æfre mærða þon mâ middan-geardes
 505 gehêdde under heofenum þonne he sylfa):
 “ Eart þu se Beówulf, se þe wið Brecan wunne,
 “ on sîdne sæ ymb sund flite,
 “ þær git for wlenee wada cunnedon
 “ and for dol-gilpe on deóp wäter
 510 “ aldrum nêðdon? Ne inc ænig mon,
 “ ne leóf ne lâð, beleán milhte
 “ sorh-fullne sîð; þâ git on sund reón,
 “ þær git eágor-streám earmum þchton,
 “ mæton mere-stræta, mundum brugdon,

515 "glidon ofer gár-seeg; geofon ýðum weól,
 "wintres wylme. Git on wäteres æht
 "seofon niht swuncon; he þe át sunde oferflát,
 "häfde märe mägen. På hine on morgen-tid
 "on Heaðo-ræmas holm np ätbär,

520 "þonon he gesöhte swæsne êðel
 "leóf his leódum lond Brondinga,
 "fleoðo-burh fägere, þær he folc áhte,
 "burg and beágas. Beót eal wið þe
 "sunu Beánstânes sôðe gelæste.

525 "þonne wêne ic tð þe wyrsan geþinges,
 "þeáh þu heáðo-ræsa gehwær dolite,
 "grimre gûðe, gif þu Grendles dearst
 "niht-longne fyrst neán bîdan!"
 Beówulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþeówes:

530 "Hwät þu worn fela, wine mîn Hûnferð,
 "beóre druncen ymb Breca spræce,
 "säglest from his sîðe! Sôð ic talige,
 "þât ic mere-strengo mâran áhte,
 "eafeðo on ýðum, þonne ænig ððer man.

535 "Wit þât gecwædon cniht-wesende
 "and gebeótedon (wæron begen þâ git
 "on geogoð-feore) þât wit on gár-seeg út
 "aldrum nêðdon; and þât geäfndon swâ.
 "Hästlon swurd nacod, þâ wit on sund reón,

540 "heardl on handa, wit unc wið hron-fixas
 "werian þôliton. Nô he wiht fram me
 "flôd-ýðum feor fleótan mealite,
 "hraðor on holme, nô ic fram him wolde.
 "þâ wit ätsoinne on sæ wæron

545 "fif nilita fyrst, ðð þât unc flôd tôdrâf,
 "wado weallende, wedera cealdost,
 "nîpende niht and norðan wind
 "heaðo-grim andhwearf; hreó wæron ýða.
 'Wäs mere-fixa mðd onhrêred:

550 " þær me wið lâðum lie-syrce mîn,
 " heard hond-locen, helpe gefremede;
 " beado-hrägl broden on breóstum läg,
 " golde gegyrwed. Me tô grunde teáh
 " fâh feónd-scaða, fâste hâfde
 555 " grim on grâpe: hwâðre me gyfeðe wearð,
 " þât ic aglæcan orde gerælte,
 " hilde-bille; heaðo-ræs fornâ
 " mihtig mere-deór þurh mîne hand.

X. BEÓWULF'S CONTEST WITH BRECA.—THE FEAST.

" Swâ mec gelôme lâð-geteónan
 560 " þreátedon þearle. Ic him þenode
 " deóran sweorde, swâ hit gedêfe wâs;
 " nâs hie þære fylle gefeán hâfdon,
 " mân-fordædlan, þât hie me þegon,
 " symbel ymb-sæton sæ-grunde neâh,
 565 " ac on mergenne mécum wunde
 " be jð-lâfe uppe lægon,
 " sweordum âswcfede, þât syðan nâ
 " ymb brontne ford brim-lîðende
 " lâde ne letton. Leóht eástan com,
 570 " beorht beácen godes; brimu swaðredon,
 " þât ic sæ-nâssas geseón mihte,
 " windige weallas. Wyrd oft nereð
 " nnfægne eorl, ðonne his ellen deâh!
 " Hwâðere me gesælde, þât ic mid sweorde ofslôh
 575 " nicearas nigene. Nô ic on niht gefrägn
 " under heofones hwealf heardran feohtan,
 " ne on êg-streánum earmran mannan;
 " hwâðere ic fâra feng feore gedigde,
 " sfðes wêrig. Þâ mec sæ ððbär,
 580 " flôd äfter faroðe, on Finna land,

" wadu weallendu. Nô ic wiht fram þe
 " swylera searo-nîða secgan hýrde,
 " billa brôgan: Breca næfre git
 " ät heaðo-lâce, ne gehwâðer incer
 585 " swâ deôrlice dæd gefremede
 " fâgum sweordum
 " nô ic þâs gylpe;
 " þeâh þu þinum brôðrum tô banan wurde,
 " heâsfod-mægum; þâs þu in helle scealt
 590 " werhðo dreôgan, þeâh þîn wit duge.
 " Secge ic þe tô sôðe, sunu Eeglâfes,
 " þât næfre Grendel swâ fela gryra gefremede,
 " atol äglæca ealdre þinum,
 " hýnðo on Heorote, gif þîn hige wære,
 595 " sefa swâ searo-grim, swâ þu self talast.
 " Ac he hafað onfunden, þât he þâ fæhðe ne þearf,
 " atole ecg-þräce eower leôde
 " swîðe onsittan, Sige-Seyldinga;
 " nymeð nýd-bâde, nænegum ârað
 600 " leôde Deniga, ac he on lust wîgeð,
 " swefeð onl sendeð, säcce ne wêneð
 " tô Gâr-Denum. Ac him Geâta sceal
 " eafoð and ellen ungeâra nu
 " gûðe gebeódan. Gæð eft se þe môt
 605 " tô medo môdig, siððan morgen-leóht
 " ofer ylda bearn ðôres dôgores,
 " sunne swegl-wered sôðan scîneð!"
 þâ wâs on sâlnm sincest brytta
 gamol-feax and gûð-rôf, geóce gelyfde
 610 brego Beorht-Dena; gehýrde on Beôwulfe
 folces hyrde fâst-rædne geþôht.
 þær wâs hâleða hleahtor; hlyn swynsode,
 word wæron wynsume. Eode Wealhþeôw forð,
 cwên Hrôðgâres, cynna gemyndig,
 615 grêtte gold-hroden guman on healle,

and þā freólic wif ful gesealde
 ærest Eást-Dena éðel-wearde,
 bäd hine blíðne ät þære beór-þege,
 leódum leófne; he on lust geþeah
 620 symbol and sele-ful, sige-rôf kyning.
 Ymb-eode þā ides Helminga
 dnguðe and geogoðe dæl aeghwylcne;
 sinc-fato sealde, ðð þät sæl Álamp,
 þät hió Beówulfe, beág-hroden cwên,
 625 mðde geþungen, medo-ful ätbär;
 grêtte Geáta leód, gode þancode
 wîs-fäst wordum, þäs þe hire se willa gelamp,
 þät heó on ænigne eorl gelýfde
 fyrena frôfre. He þät ful geþeah,
 630 wäl-reów wîga ät Wealhþeón,
 and þā gyddode gûðe gefýsed,
 Beówulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþeówes:
 “ Ic þät hogode, þā ic on holm gestâh,
 “ sæ-bât gesät mid mînra secga gedriht,
 635 “ þät ic ânunga eówra leóda
 “ willan geworhte, oððe on wäl crunge,
 “ feónd-grâpum fäst. Ic gefremman sceal
 “ eorlîc ellen, oððe ende-dâg
 “ on þissem meodu-healle mînne gebidan.”
 640 þam wîfe þā word wel lîcodon,
 gilp-cwide Geátes; eode gold-hroden
 freóliu folc-cwên tð hire freán sittan.
 þā wâs eft swâær inne on healle
 þryð-word sprecen, þeód on sâlum,
 645 sige-folca swêg, ðð þät semninga
 sunn Healsdenes sêcean wolde
 æfen-räste; wiste ät þäm ahlæcan
 tð þäm heâh-sele hilde geþinged,
 siððan hie sunnan leóht geseón ne meahton,
 650 oððe nîpende niht ofer ealle,

scadu-helma gesceapu scrîðan cwôman,
 wan under wolenum. Werod eall ârâs.
 Grêtte þâ giddum guma ðeरne,
 Hrôðgâr Beówulf, and him hæl âbeâd,
 655 win-ärnes geweald and þât word âcwâð:
 " Næfre ic ænegum men ær âlyfde,
 " siððan ic hond and rond hebban mihte,
 " þryð-ärn Dena buton þe nu þâ.
 " Hafa nu and geheald hûsa sêlest;
 660 " gemyne mærðo, mägen-ellen cýð,
 " waca wið wrâðum! Ne bið þe wilna gâd,
 " gif þu þât ellen-weorc aldre gedigest."

XI. THE WATCH FOR GRENDEL.

þâ him Hrôðgâr gewât mid his häleða gedryht,
 eodur Scyldinga ût of healle;
 665 wolde wîg-fruma Wealhþeó sêcan,
 cwên tô gebeddan. Häfde kyninga wuldor
 Grendle tô-geánes, swâ guman gefrungon,
 sele-weard âseted: sundor-nytte beheôld
 ymb alder Dena, eoton weard âbeâd;
 670 hâru Geáta leód georne trûwode
 môdgan mägnes, metodes hyldo.
 þâ he him of dyde isern-byrnan,
 helm of hafelan, sealde his hyrsted sweord,
 ïrena cyst ombiht-þegne,
 675 and gehealdan hêt hilde-geatwe.
 Gesprâc þâ se gôda gylp-worda sum
 Beówulf Geáta, ær he on bed stige:
 " Nô ic me an here-wæsmum hnâgran talige
 " gûð-geweorea, þonne Grendel hine;
 680 " forþan ic hine sweorde swebban nelle,
 " aldre beneôtan, þeâh ic eal mæge.

“ Nāt he þāra gōda, þāt he me on-geán sleá,
 “ rand geheáwe, þeáh þe he rōf sīe
 “ nīð-geweorca; ac wit on niht seulon
 685 “ sege ofersittan, gif he gesēcean dear
 “ wīg ofer wæpen, and siððau witig god
 “ on swā hwādere hond hālig dryhten
 “ mærðo dēme, swā him gemet þince.”
 Hylde hine þā heaðo-deór, hleór-bolster onfēng
 690 eorles andwlitan; and hine ymb monig
 snellīc sāe-rinc sele-reste gebeáli.
 Nænig heora þōhte þāt he þanon scolde
 eft eard-lufan aefre gesēcean,
 fole oððe freð-burh, þær he afēded wās,
 695 ac hie häfdon gefrunen, þāt hie aer tō fela micles
 in þām win-sele wāl-deáð fornām,
 Denigea leóde. Ac him dryhten forgeaf
 wīg-spēda gewiofu, Wedera leóðnum
 frōfor and fultum, þāt hie feónd heora
 700 þurh ānes cräft ealle ofercōmon,
 selfes mihtum: sōð is gecfōðed,
 þāt mihtig god manna cynnes
 weóld wīde-ferhð. Com on wanre niht
 scriðan secadu-genga. Sceótend swæfon,
 705 þā þāt horn-reced healdan scoldon,
 ealle buton ānum. þāt wās yldum cūð,
 þāt hie ne mōste, þā metod nolde,
 se syn-scaða under sceadu bregdan;
 ac he wāccende wrāðum on andan
 710 bād bolgen-mōd beadwa geþinges.

XII. GRENDEL'S RAID.

þâ com of mōre under mist-hleoðum
 Grendel gongan, godes yrre bär.
 Mynte se mân-scaða manna cynnes
 sumne besyrwan in sele þam heán ;
 715 wôd under wolcnum, tô þäs þe he win-reced,
 gold-scle gumena, gearwost wisse
 fâttum fâhne. Ne wäs þät forma sið,
 þät he Hrðögâres hâm gesðhte :
 næfre he on aldor-dagum ær ne siððan
 720 heardran hâle, heal-þegnas fand !
 Com þâ tô recede rinc siðian
 dreánum bedæled. Duru sôna onarn
 fýr-bendum fâst, syððan he hine folnum hrâu ;
 onbrâd þâ bealo-hydig, þâ he âbolgen wäs,
 725 recedes mûðan. Raðe äfter þon
 on fâgne flor feónd treddode,
 eode yrre-môd ; him of eágum stôd
 lîge gelicost leóht unfäger.
 Geseah he in recede rinca manige,
 730 swefan sibbe-gedriht samod ätgädere,
 mago-rinca heáp : þâ bis môd âhlôg,
 mynte þät he gedælde, ær þon dâg cwðme,
 atol aglæca, ânra gehwylces
 lîf wið lice, þâ him âlumpen wäs
 735 wist-fylle wên. Ne wäs þät wyrd þâ gen,
 þät he mâ môste manna cynnes
 þicgean ofer þâ niht. Þryð-swyð beheóld
 mæg Higelâces, hû se mân-scaða
 under fær-gripum gefaran wolde.
 740 Ne þät se aglæca yldan þôhte,
 ac he gefêng hraðe forman siðe
 slæpendne rinc, slât unwearnum,

bât bân-locan, blôd êdrum dranc,
 syn-snaedum swealh: sôna häfde
 745 unlyfigendes eal gefeormod
 fêt and folma. Forð neár ätstôp,
 nam þâ mid handa hige-þihtigne
 rinc on râste; ræhte ongeán
 feónd mid folme, he onfêng hraðe
 750 inwit-þancum and wið earm gesät.
 Sôna þât onfunde fyrena hyrde,
 þât he ne mêtte middan-geardes
 eorðan sceáta on elran men
 mund-gripe mâran: he on môde wearð
 755 forht on ferhðe, nô þýær fram meahte;
 hyge wâs him hin-fûs, wolde on heolster fleón,
 sêcan deófla gedräg: ne wâs his drohtoð þær,
 swyリー he on ealder-dagum ær gemêtte.
 Gemunde þâ se gôda mæg Higelâces
 760 æfen-spræce, up-lang âstôd
 and him fâste wiðfêng. Fingras burston;
 eoten wâs ût-weard, eorl furður stôp.
 Mynte se mæra, þær he meahte swâ,
 widre gewindan and on weg þanon
 765 fleón on fen-hôpu; wiste his fingra geweald
 on grames grâpum. þât wâs geócor sîð,
 þât se hearm-scaða tô Heorûte âteáh:
 dryht-sele dynede, Denum eallum wearð,
 ceaster-bûendum, cénra gehwylcum,
 770 eorlum ealu-scerwen. Yrre wæron begen,
 rêðe rên-weardas. Reced hlynsoðe;
 þâ wâs wundor micel, þât se win-sele
 wiðhâfde heaðo-deórum, þât he on hrusan ne feól.
 fäger fold-bold; ac he þâs fâste wâs
 775 innan and ûtan fren-bendum
 searo-þoncum besmiðod. þær fram sylle åbeág
 medu-benc monig mîne gefræge,

golde geregnad, þær þâ graman wunnon;
 þâs ne wêndon ær witan Scyldinga,
 780 þât hit â mid gemete manna ænig
 betlîc and bân-fâg tôbrecan meahte,
 listum tôlûcan, nymðe liges fâðm
 swulge on swaðule. Swêg up âstâg
 niwe geneahhe; Norð-Denum stôd
 785 atelîc egesa. ânra gehwylcum
 þâra þe of wealle wôp gehýrdon,
 gryre-leóð galan godes andsacan,
 sige-leásne sang, sâr wânigean
 helle häftan. Heóld hine tô fâste
 790 se þe manna wâs mägene strengest
 on þâm dâge þysses lîfes.

XIII. BEÓWULF TEARS OFF GRENDEL'S ARM.

NOLDE eorla hleô ænige þinga
 þone cwealm-cuman cwiene forlætan,
 ne his lîf-dagas leôda ænigum
 795 nytté tealde. Þær genehost brâgd
 eorl Beówulfes ealde lâfe,
 wolde freá-drihtnes feorh ealgian
 mæres þeódnes, þær hie meahton swâ;
 hie þât ne wiston, þâ hie gewin drugon,
 800 heard-hicgende hilde-meegas,
 and on healfa gehwone heáwan þôhton,
 sâwle sêcan, þât þone syn-scaðan
 ænig ofer eorðan írenna cyst,
 gûð-billa nân grêtan nolde;
 805 ac he sige-wæpnum forsworen hâfde,
 ecga gehwylcre. Scolde his alder-gedâl
 on þâm dâge þysses lîfes
 earmlic wurðan and se ellor-gâst

on feónda geweald feor stðian.

810 þa þat onfunde se þe fela æror
môdes myrðe manna cynne
fyrene gefremede (he wäs fág wið god)
þat him se líc-homa læstan nolde,

ac hine se môdega mæg Hygelâces

815 häfde be honda; wäs gehwæðer ððrum
lifigende lâð. Líc-sâr gebâd

atol äglæca, him on eaxle wearð

syn-dolh sweotol, seonowe onsprungon,
burston bân-locan. Beówulfe wearð

820 gûð-hrêð gyfeðe; scolde Grendel þonan
feorh-seóc fleón under fen-hleoðu,
sêcean wyn-leás wîc; wiste þe geornor,
þat his aldres wäs ende gegongen,
dôgera däg-rîm. Denm eallum wearð

825 äfter þam wäl-ræse willa gelnmpen.

Häfde þâ gefælsod, se þeær feorran com,
snotor and swýð-ferhð sele Hrðgâres,
genered wið nîðe. Niht-weorce gefeh,
ellen-mærðum; häfde Eást-Denum

830 Geát-mecga leód gilp gelæsted,
swylce oncyððe ealle gebette,
inwid-sorge, þe hieær drugon
and for þreá-nýðum þolian scoldon,
torn unlytel. Þat wäs tâcen sweotol,

835 syððan hilde-deór hond alegde,
earm and eaxle (þær wäs eal geador
Grendles grâpe) under geápne hrôf.

XIV. THE JOY AT HEOROT.

þā wäs on morgen mīne gefræge
 ymb þā gif-healle gūð-rinc monig :
 840 fērdon folc-togan feorran and neán
 geond wīd-wegas wundor sceáwian,
 lāðes lāstas. Nō his līf-gedāl
 sārlīc þūhte secga ænegum,
 þāra þe tīr-leáses trode sceáwode,
 845 hū he wērig-mōd on weg þanon,
 nīða ofercumen, on nicera mere
 fæge and geflýmed feorh-lāstas bär.
 Þær wäs on blōde brim weallende,
 atol yða geswing eal gemenged
 850 hātan heolfre, heoro-dreōre weól ;
 deáð-fæge deóg, siððan dreáma leás
 in fen-freoðo feorh alegde
 hæðene sāwle, þær him hel onfēng.
 Þanon eft gewiton eald-gesīðas,
 855 swylce geong manig of gomen-wāðe,
 fram mere mōdge, mearum rīdan,
 beornas on blancum. Þær wäs Beówulfes
 mærðo mæned ; monig oft gecwāð,
 þätte sūð ne norð be sām tweonum
 860 ofer eormen-grund ðōðer nænig
 under swegles begoung sēlra nære
 rond-häbbendra, rīces wyrðra.
 Ne hie hāru wine-drihten wiht ne lāgon,
 glädne Hrōðgār, ac þāt wäs gōð cyning.
 865 Hwīlum heaðo-rōfe hleápan lēton,
 on geflit faran fealwe mearas,
 þær him fold-wegas fāgere þūhton,
 cystum cūðe ; hwīlum cyninges þegn,
 guma gilp-hlāden gidda gemyndig,

870 se þe eal-fela eald-gesegena
 worn gemunde, word ðær fand
 sððe gebunden: secg eft ongan
 sīð Beówulfes snyttrum styrian
 and on spēd wrecan spel gerāde,
 875 wordum wrixlan, wel-lwylc gecwāð,
 þät he fram Sigemunde seegan hýrde,
 ellen-dædum, uncūðes fela,
 Wälsinges gewin, wide sīðas,
 þāra þe gumena bearn gearwe ne wiston,
 880 fæhðe and fyrene, buton Fitela mid hine,
 þonne he swylces hwät seegan wolde
 eám his nefan, swā hie á wæron
 ät nīða gehwam nýd-gesteallan:
 häfdon eal-fela eotena cynnes
 885 sweordum gesæged. Sigemunde gesprong
 äfter deáð-däge dōm unlýtel,
 syððan wiges heard wyrm acwealde,
 hordes hyrde; he under hárne stān,
 äðelinges bearn, ána genēðe
 890 frēcne dæde; ne wäs him Fitela mid.
 Hwæðre him gesælde, þät þät swurd þurhwōd
 wrätlīcne wyrm, þät hit on wealle ätstōd,
 dryhtlīc īren; draca mōrðre swealt.
 Häfde aglæca elne gegongen,
 895 þät he beáh-hordes brūcan mōste
 selfes dōme: sæ-bāt gehlōd,
 bär on bearm scipes beorhte frätwa,
 Wälses eafera; wyrm hāt gemealt.
 Se wäs wrecenna wide mærost
 900 ofer wer-þeóde, wigendra hleó
 ellen-dædum (he þäs aer onþāh),
 siððan Heremōdes hild sweðrode
 eafoð and ellen. He mid eotenum wearð
 on feónda geweald forð forlācen,

905 snûde forsended. Hine sorh-wylmas
 lemede tô lange, he his leôdum wearð,
 eallum ädelingum tô alder-ceare ;
 swylce oft bemearn ærran mælum
 swið-ferhðes sið snotor ceorl monig,
 910 se þe him bealwa tô bôte gelýfde,
 þät þät þeódnes bearn geþeón scolde,
 fäder-ädelum onfôn, folc gehealdan,
 hord and hleó-burh, häleða rîce,
 915 Æðel Scyldinga. He þær eallum wearð,
 mæg Higelâces manna cynne,
 freóndum gefägra ; hine fyren onwôd.

Hwilum flítende fealwe stræte
 mearum maeton. På wäs morgen-leóht
 scofen and scynded. Eode scealc monig
 920 swið-hicgende tô sele þam heán,
 searo-wundor seón, swylce self cyning,
 of brýd-bûre beáh-horda weard,
 tryddode tîr-fäst getrume micle,
 cystum gecýðed, and his cwên mid him
 925 medo-stig gemät mägða hôse.

XV. HROTHGAR'S GRATULATION.

HRÔÐGÂR maðelode (he tô healle geóng,
 stôd on stapole, geseah steápne hrôf
 golde fâhne and Grendles hond) :
 “ þisse ansýne al-wealdan þanc
 930 “ lungre gelimpe ! Fela ic lâðes gebâd,
 “ grynpa ät Grendle : å mäg god wyrca
 “ wunder äfter wundre, wuldres hyrde !
 “ þät wäs ungeâra, þät ic ænigra me
 “ weâna ne wênde tô wîdan feore

935 "bôte gebidan þonne blôde fâh
 "hûsa sêlest heoro-dreórig stôd;
 "weá wîd-scofen witena gehwylcne
 "þâra þe ne wêndon, þât hie wide-ferhð
 "leôda land-geweorc läðum beweredon

940 "scuecum and scinnum. Nu scealc hafað
 "þurh drihtnes miht dæd gefremede,
 "þe we ealle ær ne meahton
 "snyttrum besyrwan. Hwät! þât secgan mäg
 "efne swâ hwylc mägða, swâ þone magan cende

945 "äfter gum-cynnum, gyf heô gyt lyfað,
 "þât hyre eald-metod. Æste wære
 "bearn-gebyrdo. Nu ic Beôwulf
 "þec, secg betsta, me for sunu wylle
 "freógan on ferhðe; heald forð tela

950 "niwe sibbe. Ne bið þe nænigra gâd
 "worolde wilna, þe ic geweald hâbbe.
 "Ful-oft ic for lässan leán teohhode
 "hord-weorðunge hnâhran rince,
 "sæmran ät sâcce. Þu þe self hafast

955 "dædum gefremed, þât þin dôm lyfað
 "âwâ tð aldre. Alwalda þec
 "gôde forgylde, swâ he nu gyt dyde!"
 Beôwulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþeowes:
 "We þât ellen-weorc Æstum miclum,

960 "feohtan fremedon, frêcne genêðdon
 "eafod uncûðes; ûðe ic swiðor,
 "þât þu hine selfne geseón môste,
 "feónd on frâtewum fyl-wêrigne!
 "Ic hine hrädlîce heardan clammum

965 "on wäl-bedde wrîðan þôhte,
 "þât he for mund-gripe mînum scolde
 "licgean lif-bysig, butan his lîc swice;
 "ic hine ne mihte, þâ metod nolde,
 "ganges getwæman, nô ic him þâs georne ätfealh,

970 " feorh-genfðlan ; wäs tō fore-mihtig
 " feónd on fēðe. Hwāðere he his folme forlēt
 " tō lif-wraðe lāst weardian,
 " earm and eaxle ; nō þær ænige swā þeáh
 " feá-sceaft guma frōfre gebohte :
 975 " nō þý leng leofað lāð-geteóna
 " synnum geswenced, ac hyne sár hafað
 " in nýd-gripe nearwe befongan,
 " balwon bendum : þær ábidan sceal
 " maga māne fāh miclan dōmes,
 980 " hū him scír metod scrifan wille."
 þā wäs swígra secg, sunu Ecglāfes,
 on gylp-spræce gūð-geweorca,
 siððan äðelingas eorles cräfte
 ofer heáhne hrōf hand sceáwedon,
 985 feóndes fingras, foran æghwylc ;
 wäs stēde nägla gehwylc, stýle gelicost,
 hæðenes hand-speru hilde-rinces
 egle unheóru ; æg-hwylc gecwāð,
 þät him heardra nân hrīnan wolde
 990 ïren ær-gōd, þät þás ahlæcan
 blōdge beadu-folme onberan wolde.

XVI. THE BANQUET AND THE GIFTS.

þā wäs hâten hreðe Heort innan-weard
 folmum gefrätwod : fela þæra wäs
 wera and wifa, þe þät win-reced,
 995 gest-sele gyredon. Gold-fág scinon
 web äfter wagum, wundor-siðna fela
 secga gehwylcnm þāra þe on swylc starað.
 Wäs þät beorhte bold tōbrocen swiðe
 eal inne-weard ïren-bendum fäst,
 1000 heorras tōhlidene ; hrōf ána genäs

1000 ealles ansund, þâ se aglæca,
 fyren-dædum fâg on fleám gewand,
 aldres or-wêna. Nô þât ïðe byð
 tô befleónne (fremme se þe wille!)

1005 ac gesacan sceal sâwl-berendra
 nýde genýdde niðða bearna
 grund-bûendra gearwe stôwe,
 þær his lîc-homa leger-bedde fäst
 swefeð äfter symle. Þâ wäs sael and mæl,

1010 þât tô healle gang Healfdenes sunu ;
 wolde self cyning symbol þicgan.
 Ne gefrägen ic þâ mægðe mâran weorode
 ymb hyra sinc-gyfan sôl gebæran.
 Bugon þâ tô bence blæd-âgende,

1015 fylle gefægon. Fägere geþægon
 medo-ful manig mágas † þâra
 swið-hicgende on sele þam heán,
 Hrðögâr and Hrðöulf. Heorot innan wäs
 freóndum ásfällt ; nalles fâcen-stafas

1020 þeód-Seyldingas þenden fremedon.
 Forgeaf þâ Beówulfe bearn Healfdenes
 segen gyldenne sigores tô leáne,
 hroden hilte-cumbor, helm aud byrnan ;
 mære mâððum-sweord manige gesâwon

1025 beforan beorn beran. Beówulf geþah
 ful on flette ; nô he þære feoh-gyfte
 for sceótendum seamigan þorste,
 ne gefrägn ic freóndlicor feówer mâdmas
 golde gegyrede gum-manna fela

1030 in ealo-bence ððrum gesellan.
 Ymb þâs helmes hrôf heáfod-beorge
 wîrum bewunden walân ûtan heôld,
 þât him fêla lâfe frêcne ne meahton
 scûr-heard sceððan, þonne scyld-freca

1035 ongeán gramum gangan scolde.

Hêht þâ eorla hleô eahta mearas,
 fäted-hleôre, on flet teón
 in under eoderas; þâra ânum stôd
 sadol searwum fâh since gewurðad,
 1040 þât wâs hilde-setl heâh-cyninges,
 þonne sweorda gelâc sunu Healfdenes
 efnan wolde; næfre on ðre läg
 wîd-cûðes wîg, þonne walu feóllon.
 And þâ Beówulfe bega gehwâðres
 1045 eodor Ingwina onweald geteâh,
 wicga and wæpna; hêt hine wel brûcan.
 Swâ manlice mære þeóden,
 hord-weard hâleða heaðo-ræsas geald
 mearum and mâðnum, swâ hî næfre man lyhð,
 1050 se þe secgan wile sôð äfter rihte.

XVII. SONG OF HROTHGAR'S POET—THE LAY OF HNAEF AND HENGEST.

þâ gyt æghwylcum eorla drihten
 þâra þe mid Beówulfe brim-lâde teâh,
 on þære medu-bence mâððum gesealde,
 yrfe-lâfe, and þone ænne hêlt
 1055 golde forgyldan, þone þe Grendel ær
 mâne âcwealde, swâ he hyra mâ wolde,
 nefne him witig god wyrd forstôde
 and þâs mannes môd: metod eallum weôld
 gumena cynnes, swâ he nu git dêð;
 1060 forþan bið andgit æghwær sêlest,
 ferhðes fore-þanc! fela sceal gebidan
 leófes and lâðes, se þe longe her
 on þyssum win-dagum worolde brûceð.
 þær wâs sang and swêg samod ätgädere

1065 fore Healfdenes hilde-wisan,
 gomen-wudu grêted, gid oft wrecen,
 þonne heal-gamen Hrôðgåres scôp
 äfter medo-bence mænan scolde
 Finnes eaferum, þâ hie se fær begeat:

1070 "Häleð Healfdenes, Hnäf Scyldinga,
 "in Fr.. es wâle feallan scolde.
 "Ne hûru Hildeburh hêrian þorste
 "eotena treówe: unsynnum wearð
 "beloren leófum ät þam lind-plegan

1075 "bearnum and brôðrum; hie on gebyrd hruron
 "gâre wunde; þât wâs geðmuru ides.
 "Nalles hâlinga Hôces dôhtor
 "meotod-sceaft bemearn, syððan morgen com,
 "þâ heô under swegle geseón mealhte

1080 "morðor-bealo mâga, þær heôær mæste heôld
 "worolde wynne: wîg ealle fornâ
 "Finnes þegnas, nemne feáum ânum,
 "þât he ne mehte on þäm meðel-stede
 "wîg Hengeste wiht gefeohtan,

1085 "ne þâ weá-lâfe wîge forþringan
 "þeódnes þegne; ac hig him geþingo budon,
 "þât hie him ððer flet eal gerýmdon,
 "healle and heâh-setl, þât hie healfre geweald
 "wið eotena bearn âgan môston,

1090 "and ät feoh-gyftum Folcwaldan sunu
 "dôgra gehwylce Dene weorðode,
 "Hengestes heáp hringum wenede,
 "efne swâ swîðe sinc-gestreónum
 "fattan goldes, swâ he Fresena cyn

1095 "on beór-sele byldan wolde.
 "þâ hie getrûwedon on twâ healfa
 "fâste frioðu-wære; Fin Hengeste
 "elne unflitme âðum benemde,
 "þât he þâ weá-lâfe weotena dôme

1100 " ârum heolde, þät þær ænig mon
 " wordum ne worcum wäre ne bræce,
 " ne þurh inwit-searo æfre gemænden,
 " þeâh hie hira beág-gyfan banan folgedon
 " þeóden-leáse, þâ him swâ geþearfod wâs:
 1105 " gylf þonne Frysna hwylc frêcnan spræce
 " þâs morðor-hetes myndgiend wäre,
 " þonne hit sweordes ecg syððan scolde.
 " Âð wâs geäfned and icge gold
 " âhæfen of horde. Here-Scyldinga
 1110 " betst beado-rinca wâs on bæl gearu;
 " ät þäm âde wâs êð-gesýne
 " swât-fâh syrce, swýn eal-gylden,
 " eofer ïren-heard, äðeling manig
 " wundum âwyrded; sume on wâle crungon.
 1115 " Hêt þâ Hildeburh ât Hnäfes âde
 " hire selfre sunu sweoloðe befästan,
 " bân-fatu bärnan and on bæl dôn.
 " Earme on eaxle ides gnornode,
 " geðomrode giddum; gûð-rinc âstâh.
 1120 " Wand tô wolcnum wâl-fýra mæst,
 " hlynoden for hlâwe; hafelan multon,
 " ben-geato burston, þonne blôd ätspranc
 " lâð-bite lices. Lîg ealle forswealg,
 " gæsta gîfrost, þâra þe þær gûð fornam
 1125 " bega folces; wâs hira blæd scacen.

XVIII. THE GLEEMAN'S TALE IS ENDED.

" GEWITON him þâ wîgend wîca neôsian,
 " freóndum befallen Frysland geseón,
 " hâmas and heá-burh. Hengest þâ gyt
 " wâl-fâgne winter wunode mid Finne
 1130 " ealles unhlitme; eard gemunde,

“ þeáh þe he *ne* meahte on mere drífan
 “ hringed-stefnan ; holm storme weól,
 “ won wið winde ; winter ýðe beleác
 “ ís-gebinde ðð þát ððer com
 1135 “ gear in geardas, swâ nu gyt dêð,
 “ þâ þe syngales sêle bewitiað,
 “ wuldor-torhtan weder. þâ wâs winter scacen,
 “ fäger foldan bearm ; fundode wrecca,
 “ gist of geardum ; he tô gyrn-wräce
 1140 “ swiðor þöhte, þonne tô sæ-lâde,
 “ gif he torn-gemðt þurhteón mihte,
 “ þát he eotena bearn inne gemunde.
 “ Swâ he ne forwyrnde worold-rædenne,
 “ þonne him Hânlâfing hilde-leóman,
 1145 “ billa sêlest, on bearm dyde :
 “ þâs wæron mid eotenum ecge cûðe.
 “ Swylce ferhð-frecan Fin eft begeat
 “ sweord-bealo slîðen ät his selfes hâm,
 “ siððan grimne gripe Gûðlâf ond Ôslâf
 1150 “ äfter sæ-siðe sorge mændon,
 “ ätwiton weána dæl ; ne meahte wäfre mðd
 “ forhabban in hreðre. þâ wâs hcal hroden
 “ feónda feorum, swilce Fin slägen,
 “ cyning on corðre, and seó cwên numen.
 1155 “ Sceótend Scyldinga tô scypuin feredon
 “ eal in-gesteald eorð-cyninges,
 “ swylce hie ät Finnes hâm findan meahton
 “ sigla searo-gimma. Hie on sæ-lâde
 “ drihtlice wif tô Denum feredon,
 1160 “ læddon tô leódum.” Leóð wâs âsungen,
 gleó-mannes gyd. Gamen eft âstâh,
 beorhtode benc-swêg, byrelas sealdon
 wîn of wunder-fatum. þâ cwom Wealhþeó forð
 gân under gyldnum beáge, þær þâ gðan twegen
 1165 sæton suhter-gefäderan ; þâ gyt wâs hiera sib ätgädere

æghwyle ððrum trýwe. Swylce þær Hūnferð þyle
 ät fótum sät freán Scyldinga: gehwylc hiora his ferhðe
 treówde,
 þät he häfde môd micel, þeáh þe he his mágum nære
 árfäst ät eega gelácum. Spräc þâ ides Scyldinga:
 1170 "Onfôh þíssum fulle, freó-drihten mîn,
 "sincest brytta; þu on sælum wes,
 "gold-wine gumena, and tô Geátum sprec
 "mildum wordum! Swâ sceal man dôn.
 "Beó wið Geátas gläd, geofena gemyndig;
 1175 "neán and feorran þu nu *friðu* hafast.
 "Me man ságde, þät þu þe for sunu wolde
 "here-rinc habban. Heorot is gefælsod,
 "beáh-sele beorhta; brûc þenden þu môte
 "manigra mëda and þínum magum læf
 1180 "folc and rîce, þonne þu forð scyle
 "metod-sceaft seón. Ic mînne can
 "glädne Hrððnlf, þät he þâ geogoðe wile
 "ârum healdan, gyf þu ær þonne he,
 "wine Scildinga, worold oflætest;
 1185 "wêne ic, þät he mid gôde gyldan wille
 "uncran eaferan, gif he þät eal gemon,
 "hwät wit tô willan and tô worð-myndum
 "umbor wesendum ær ârna gefremedon."
 Hwearf þâ bî bence, þær hyre byre wæron,
 1190 Hrêðrîc and Hrððmund, and häleða bearn,
 giogoð ätgädere; þær se gôda sät
 Beówulf Geáta be þæm gebrððrum twæm.

XIX.

BEÓWULF'S JEWELLED COLLAR. THE HEROES REST.

Him wäs ful boren and freónd-laðu
 wordum bewägned and wunden gold
 1195 éstum geeáwed, earm-hréáde twâ,
 hrägl and hringas, heals-beága mæst
 þára þe ic on foldan gefrägen hæbbe.
 Nænigne ic under swegle sélran hýrde
 hord-mâððum häleða, syððan Hâma ätwäg
 1200 tó þære byrhtan byrig Brosinga mene,
 sigle and sinc-fät, searo-nîðas fealh
 Eormenrîces, geceás êcne ræd.
 Þone hring häfde Higelâc Geáta,
 nefâ Swertinges, nýhstan sîðe,
 1205 siððan he under segne sinc ealgode,
 wäl-reáf werede; hyne Wyrd fornâm,
 syððan he for wlenco weán âhsode,
 fæhðe tó Frysum; he þâ frätwe wäg,
 eorclan-stânas ofer ýða ful,
 1210 rîce þeóden, he under rande gecranc;
 gehwearf þâ in Francna fâðm feorh cyninges,
 breóst-gewædu and se beál somod:
 wyrsan wîg-frecan wäl reáfedor
 äfter gûð-sceare, Geáta leóde
 1215 hreâ-wîc heóldon. Heal swêge onfêng.
 Wealhþeó maðelode, heó fore þâm werede sprâc:
 “ Brûc þisses beágæs, Beówulf, leófa
 “ hyse, mid hæle, and þisses hrägles neót
 “ þeóð-gestreóna, and geþeóh tela,
 1220 “ cen þec mid crâfte and þyssum cnyhtum wes
 “ lâra lîðe! ic þe þâs leán geman.
 “ Hafast þu gefêred, þât þe feor and neáh

“ ealne wide-ferhð weras eltigað,
 “ efne swâ side swâ sæ bebûgeð
 25 “ windige weallas. Wes, þenden þu lifige,
 “ äðeling eádig ! ic þe an tela
 “ sinc-gestreóna. Beó þu suna mînum
 “ dædum gedêfe dreám healdende !
 “ Her is æghwylc eorl ððrum getrywe,
 30 “ môdes milde, man-drihtne hold,
 “ þegnas syndon geþwære, þeód eal gearo :
 “ druncne dryht-guman, dðð swâ ic bidde ! ”
 Eode þâ tô setle. þær wâs symbla cyst,
 druncon wîn weras: wyrd ne cûðon,
 35 geó-sceaft grimme, swâ hit âgangen wearð
 eorla manegum, syððan æfen cwom
 and him Hrðögâr gewât tô hofe sînum,
 rice tô râste. Reced weardode
 unrîm eorla, swâ hie oft ær dydon :
 40 benc-þelu beredon, hit geond-bræded wearð
 beddum and bolstrum. Beór-scealca sum
 fûs and fæge flet-râste gebeág.
 Setton him tô heáfdum hilde-randas,
 bord-wudu beorhtan; þær on bence wâs
 45 ofer äðelinge ȳð-gesêne
 heaðo-steápa helm, hringed byrne,
 þrec-wudu þrymlíc. Wâs þeáw hyra,
 þât hie oft wæron an wîg gearwe,
 ge ät hâm ge on herge, ge gehwâðer þâra
 50 efne swylce mæla, swylce hira man-dryhtne
 þearf gesælde; wâs seó þeód tilu.

XX.

GRENDEL'S MOTHER ATTACKS THE RING-DANES.

SIGON þā tō slæpe. Sum sāre angeald
 æfen-rāste, swā him ful-oft gelamp,
 siððan gold-sele Grendel warode,
 1255 unriht äfnde, ðō ðät ende becwom,
 swylt äfter synnum. ðät gesýne wearð,
 wid-cūð werum, þätte wrecend þā gyt
 lifde äfter lāðum, lange þrage
 äfter gūð-ceare; Grendles mōdor,
 1260 ides aglæc-wif yrmðe gemunde,
 se þe wäter-egesan wunian scolde,
 cealde streámas, siððan Cain wearð
 tō ecg-banan ångan brēðer,
 fäderen-mæge; he þā fág gewât,
 1265 morðre gemearcod man-dreám fleón,
 wêsten warode. Þanon wōc fela
 geóscceaft-gâsta; wäs þæra Grendel sum,
 heoro-wearh hetelic, se ät Heorote fand
 wäccendne wer wîges bîdan,
 1270 þær him aglæca ät-græpe wearð;
 hwäðre he gemunde mägenes strenge,
 gim-fäste gife, þe him god sealde,
 and him tō anwaldan åre gelýfde,
 frôfre and fultum: þý he þone feónd ofercwom,
 1275 gehnægde helle gâst: þā he heán gewât,
 dreáme bedæled. deáð-wic seón,
 man-cynnes feónd. And his mōdor þā gyt
 gifre and galg-môd gegân wolde
 sorh-fulne sið, sunna deáð wrecan.
 1280 Com þā tō Heorote, þær Hring-Dene
 geond þät sâld swæfun. Þā þær sôna wearð
 ed-hwyrft eorlum, siððan inne fealh

Grendles mōdor; wäs se gryre lässa
 efne swā micle, swā bið māgða cräft,
 1285 wīg-gryre wifes be wæpned-men,
 þonne heoru bunden, hamere gejuren,
 sweord swāte fāh swīn ofer helme,
 ecgum dyhtig andweard scireð.
 Þā wäs on healle heard-ecg togen,
 1290 sweord ofer setlum, sīd-rand manig
 hafen handa fāst; helm ne gemunde,
 byrnan sīde, þe hine se brōga angeat.
 Heō wäs on Ȥfste, wolde ût þanon
 feore beorgan, þā heō onfunden wäs;
 1295 hraðe heō ädelinga ånne hāfde
 fāste befangen; þā heō tō fenne gang;
 se wäs Hrōdgāre hāleða leōfost
 on gesfōdes hād be sām tweonum,
 rīe rand-wīga, þone þe heō on rāste Ȥbreāt,
 1300 blæd-fāstne beorn. Näs Beówulf þær,
 ac wäs Ȥðer in ær geteohhod
 äfter māððum-gife mærum Geáte.
 Hreám wearð on Heorote. Heō under heolfre genam
 cūðe folme; eearu wäs geniwod
 1305 geworden in wīcum: ne wäs þāt gewrixle til,
 þāt hie on bā healfa biegan scoldon
 freónda feorum. Þā wäs frōd eyning,
 hār hilde-rinc, on hreón mōde,
 syððan he aldor-þegn unlyfigendne,
 1310 þone deórestan deádne wisse.
 Hraðe wäs tō būre Beówulf fetod,
 sigor-eádig seeg. Samod ær-däge
 eode eorla sum, äðele cempa
 self mid gesiðnum, þær se snottra bād,
 1315 hwäðre him al-walda æfre wille
 äfter weá-spelle wyrpe gefremman.
 Gang þā äfter flōre fyrd-wyrðe man

mid his hand-scale (heal-wudu dynede)
 þät he þone wisan wordum hnægde
 1320 freán Ingwina; frägn gif him være
 äfter neód-laðu niht getæse.

XXI. SORROW AT HEOROT: ÆSCHERE'S DEATH.

Hrðögár maðelode, helm Scildinga :
 “ Ne frin þu äfter sælum ! Sorh is geniwod
 “ Denigea leódum. Deád is Äsc-here,
 1325 “ Yrmenláfes yldra brððor,
 “ mîn rún-wita and mîn ræd-bora,
 “ eaxl-gestealla, þonne we on orlege
 “ hafelan weredon, þonne hniton fêðan,
 “ eoferas cnysedan ; swylc scolde eorl wesan
 1330 “ äðeling aer-gôd, swylc Äsc-here wäs.
 “ Wearð him on Heorote tô hand-banan
 “ wäl-gæst wäfre ; ic ne wåt hwäder
 “ atol æse wlanc eft-siðas teáh,
 “ fylle gefrägnod. Heó þâ fæhðe wräc,
 1335 “ þe þu gystran niht Grendel cwealdest
 “ þurh hæstne håd heardum clammum,
 “ forþan he tô lange leóde mîne
 “ wanode and wyrde. He ät wîge gecrang
 “ ealdres scyldig, and nu ððer cwom
 1340 “ mihtig mân-scaða, woldë hyre mæg wrecan,
 “ ge feor hafað fæhðe gestæled,
 “ þâs þe þincean mæg þegne monegum,
 “ se þe äfter sinc-gyfan on sefan greóteð,
 “ hreðer-bealo hearde ; nu seó hand ligeð,
 1345 “ se þe eów wel-hwylcra wilna dohte.
 “ Ic þät lond-bûend leóde mîne
 “ sele-rædende secgan hýrde,
 “ þät hie gesâwon swylce twegen

“ micle mearc-stapan mōras healdan,
 1350 “ ellor-gæstas: þæra ððer wäs,
 “ þäs þe hie gewislicost gewitan meahton
 “ idese onlīcnes, ððer earm-sceapen
 “ on weres wästnum wräc-lästas träd,
 “ näfne he wäs māra þonne ænig man ððer,
 1355 “ þone on geâr-dagum Grendel nemdon
 “ fold-bûende: nô hie fäder cunnon,
 “ hwäðer him ænig wäs ær åcenned
 “ dyrnra gâsta. Hie dýgel lond
 “ warigeað, wulf-hleoðu, windige nässas,
 1360 “ frêcne fen-gelâd, þær fyrgen-streám
 “ under nässa genipu niðer gewîteð,
 “ flôd under foldan; nis þät feor heonon
 “ mil-gemearces, þät se mere standeð,
 “ ofer þäm hongiað hrînde bearwas,
 1365 “ wudu wyrтum fâst, wäter oferhelmað.
 “ þær mäg nihta gehwäm nið-wundor seón,
 “ fýr on flôde; nô þäs frôd leofað
 “ gnmena bearna, þät þone grund wite;
 “ þeâl þe hæð-stapa hundum geswenced,
 1370 “ heorot hornum trum holt-wudu sêce,
 “ feorran geflýmed, ær he feorh seleð,
 “ aldon on ðfre, ær he in wille,
 “ hafelan hýdan. Nis þät heóru stôw:
 “ þonon ýð-geblond up ástigeð
 1375 “ won tô wolenum, þonne wind styreð
 “ lâð gewidru, ðð þät lyft drysmað,
 “ roderas reótað. Nu is ræd gelang
 “ eft ät þe ånum! Eard git ne const,
 “ frêcne stôwe, þær þu findan miht
 1380 “ sinnigne secg: sêc gif þu dyrre!
 “ Ic þe þâ fæhðe feó leánige,
 “ eald-gestreónum, swâ ic ær dyde,
 “ wñndnum golde, gyf þu on weg cymest.”

XXII.

BEÓWULF SEEKS THE MONSTER IN THE HAUNTS OF
THE NIXIES.

BEÓWULF maðelode, bearn Ecgþeówes :

1385 " Ne sorga, snotor guma ! sêlre bið aeghwäm,
 " þät he his freónd wrece, þonne he fela murne ;
 " ðre aeghwylc sceal ende gebidan
 " worolde lîfes ; wyrce se þe môte
 " dômes ær deáðe ! þät bið driht-guman
 1390 " unlifgendum äfter sêlestä.
 " Åris, rîces weard ; utton hraðe fêran,
 " Grendles mâgan gang sceáwigan !
 " Ic hit þe gehâte : nô he on helm losað,
 " ne on foldan fâðm, ne on fyrgen-holt,
 1395 " ne on gyfenes grund, gâ þær he wille.
 " Þys dôgor þu geþyld hafa
 " weána gehwylces, swâ ic þe wêne tô !"
 Åhleóp þâ se gomela, gode þancode,
 mihtigan drihtne, þâs se man gespräc.
 1400 þâ wäs Hrôðgâre hors gebæted,
 wicg wunden-feax. Wîsa fengel
 geatolíc gengde ; gum-fêða stðp
 lind-häbbendra. Lâstas wæron
 äfter wald-swaðum wide gesyne,
 1405 gang ofer grundas ; gegnum fôr þâ
 ofer myrcan môr, mago-þegna bär
 þone sêlestan sâwol-leásne,
 þâra þe mid Hrôðgâre hâm eahtode.
 Ofer-eode þâ äðelinga bearn
 1410 steáp stân-hliðo, stîge nearwe,
 enge ân-paðas, un-cûð gelâd,
 neowle nässas, nicor-hûsa fela ;
 he feára sum beforan gengde

wísra monna, wong sceáwian,
 1415 þát he færinga fyrgen-beámas
 ofer hárne stân hleonian funde,
 wyn-leásne wudu; wäter under stðd
 dreórig and gedrêfed. Denum eallum wäs,
 winum Scyldinga, weorce on môde,
 1420 tð geþolianne þegne monegum,
 oncyð eorla gehwäm, syððan Äsc-heres
 on þam holm-clife hafelan métton.
 Flôd blôde weól (folk tð sægon)
 hâtan heolsre. Horn stundum song
 1425 fûslíc fyrd-leóð. Fêða eal gesät;
 gesâwon þâ äfter wâtere wyrn-cynnes fela,
 sellice sæ-dracan sunnd cunnian,
 swylce on nás-hleoðum nicras licgean,
 þâ on undern-mæl oft bewitigað
 1430 sorh-fulne sîð on segl-râde,
 wyrmas and wil-deór; lie on weg hruron
 bitere and gebolgne, bearhtm ongeâton,
 gûð-horn galan. Sumne Geáta leóð
 of flân-bogan feores getwæfde,
 1435 ýð-gewinnes, þát him on aldre stðd
 here-sträl hearda; he on holme wäs
 sundes þe sænra, þe hyne swylt fornam.
 Hräðc wearð on ýðum mid eofer-spreótum
 beoro-hôcyltum hearde genearwôd,
 1440 nîða genæged and on nás togen
 wundorlíc wæg-bora; weras sceáwedon
 gryrelícne gist. Gyrede hine Beówulf
 eorl-gewædum, nalles for ealdre mearn:
 scolde here-byrne hondum gebroden,
 1445 sîd and searo-fâh, sund cunnian,
 seó þe bân-côfan beorgan cûðe,
 þát him hilde-grâp hreðre ne mihte,
 eorres inwit-feng, aldre gesceððan;

ac se hwīta helm hafelan werede,
 1450 se þe mere-grundas meðigan scolde,
 sēcān sund-geblānd since geweōrðad,
 besongen freá-wrāsnum, swā hine fyrn-dagum
 wōrhte wæpna smið, wundrum tēode,
 besette swīn-līcum, þät hine syððan nō
 1455 brond ne beado-mēcas bitān ne meāhton.
 Näs þät þonne mætost mägen-fultnma,
 þät him on þearfe lāh þyle Hrōdgāres;
 wäs þām häft-mēce Hrunting nama,
 þät wäs an foran eald-gestreóna;
 1460 ecg wäs fren, åter-tānum fāh,
 åhyrded heaðo-swāte; næfre hit ät hilde ne swāc
 manna ænguin þāra þe hit mid muudum bewānd,
 se þe gryre-siðas gegān dörste,
 folc-stede fāra; näs þät forma sið,
 1465 þät hit ellen-weore äfnan scolde.
 Hūru ne gemunde mago Egglāfes
 eafoðes cräftig, þät he ær gesprāc
 wīne druncen, þā he þās wæpnes onlāh
 sēlran sweord-frecan: selfa ne dörste
 1470 under yða gewin aldre genēðan,
 driht-scype dreógan; þær he dōme forleás,
 ellen-mærðum. Ne wäs þām ðōrum swā,
 syððan he hine tō gūðe gegyred häfde.

XXIII. THE BATTLE WITH THE WATER-DRAKE.

BEÓWULF maðelode, bearn Eegþeówes:
 1475 "geþēne nu, se mæra maga Healfdene,
 "snottra fengel, nu ic eom siðes fūs,
 "gold-wine gumena, hwāt wit geō spræcon,
 "gif ic ät þearfe þīnre scolde?
 "aldre linhan, þät þu me a wære

1480 " forð-gewitenum on fäder stäle ;
 " wes þu mund-bora mînum mago-þegnum,
 " hond-gesellum, gif mec hild niñe : ?
 " swylce þu þâ mâmmas, þe þu me sealdest,
 " Hrôdgâr leófa, Higelâce onsend.

1485 " Mâg þonne on þäm golde ongitan Geáta dryliten,
 " geseón sunu Hrêðles, þonne he on þât sinc starað,
 " pât ie gum-cystum gôdne funde
 " beága bryttan, breác þonne môste.
 " And þu Hûnferð lät ealde lâfe,

1490 " wrâtlîc wæg-sweord wîd-cûðne man
 " heard-ecg habban ; ie me mid Hruntinge
 " dôm gewyrce, oððe mec deáð nimeð."
 Äfter þæm wordum Weder-Geáta leôd
 êfste mid elne, nalas andsware

1495 bidau wolde ; brim-wylm onfêng
 hilde-rince. Þâ wäs hwîl dâges,
 ær he þone grund-wong ongytan mehte.
 Sôna þât onfunde, se þe flôda begong
 heoro-gîfre beheôld hund missera,

1500 grim and grædig, þât þær gumena sum
 äl-wihta eard ufan cunnode.
 Grâp þâ tôgeánes, gûð-rinc gefêng
 atolan clommum ; nô þý ær in gescôd
 hâlan lîce : hring utan ymb-bearh,

1505 þât heô þone fyrd-hom þurh-fôn ne mihte,
 locene leoðo-syrcan lâðan fingrum.
 Bär þâ seð brim-wylf, þâ heô tô botme com,
 hringa þengel tô hofe sinum,
 swâ he ne mihte nô (he þas môdig wäs)

1510 wæpna gewealdan, ac hine wundra þas fela
 swencte on sunnde, sæ-deór monig
 hilde-tuxum here-syrcan brâc,
 êhton aglæcan. Þâ se eorl ongeat,
 þât he in nið-sele nât-hwylcum wäs,

1515 þær him nænig wäter wihte ne sceðede,
 ne him for hrôf-sele hrînan ne mehte
 fær-gripe flôdes: fîr-leóht geseah,
 blâcne leóman beorhte scînan.
 Ongeat þâ se gôda grund-wyrge, 1520
 mere-wîf mihtig; mägen-ræs forgeaf
 hilde-bille, hond swenge ne ofteáh,
 þät hire on hafelan hring-mæl âgôl
 grædig gûð-leóð. þâ se gist onfand,
 þät se beado-leóma bítan nolde,
 1525 aldre sceððan, ac seó ecg geswâc
 þeódne ät þearfe: þolodeær fela
 hond-gemôta, helm oft gescâr,
 fæges fyrd-hrägl: þät wäs forma stôd
 deórum mâðme, þät his dôm âläg.
 1530 Eft wäs án-ræd, nalas elnes lät,
 mærða gemyndig mæg Hygelâces;
 wearp þâ wunden-mæl wrättum gebunden
 yrre oretta, þät hit on eorðan läg,
 stôd and stîl-ecg; strenge getrûwode,
 1535 mund-gripe mägenes. — Swâ sceal man dôn,
 þonne he ät gûðe gegân þenceð
 longsumne lof, nâ ymb his lîf cearað.
 Gefêng þâ be eaxle (nalas for fæhðe mearn)
 Gûð-Geáta leóð Grendles môdor;
 1540 brägd þâ beadwe heard, þâ he gebolgen wäs,
 feorh-genfðlan, þät heó on flet gebeáh.
 Heó him est hraðe and-leán forgeald
 grimman grâpum and him tôgeánes fêng;
 oferwearp þâ wêrig-môd wigena strongest,
 1545 fêðe-cempa, þät he on fylle wearð.
 Ofsät þâ þone sele-gyst and hyre seaxe geteáh,
 brâd and brûn-ecg wolde hire hearn wrecan,
 ângan eaferan. Him on eaxle läg
 breóst-net broden; þät gebearh feore,

1550 wið ord and wið ecge ingang forstōd.
 Hāfde þā forsiðod sunu Ecgþeówes
 under gynne grund, Geáta cempa,
 nemne him heaðo-byrne helpe gefremede,
 here-net hearde, and hālig god
 1555 geweold wīg-sigor, witig drihten ;
 rodera rædend hit on ryht gescēd,
 yðelice syððan he eft āstōd.

XXIV. BEÓWULF SLAYS THE SPRITE.

GESEAH þā on searwum sige-eádig bil,
 eald sweord eotenisc ecgum þyhtig,
 1560 wīgena weorð-mynd : þāt wās wæpna cyst,
 būton hit wās māre þonne ænig mon ðōer
 tō beadu-lāce ätberan meahte
 gōd and geatolīc giganta geweorc.
 He gefēng þā fetel-hilt, freca Scildinga,
 1565 hreōh and heoro-grim hring-mäl gebrägd,
 aldres orwēna, yrriŋga slōh,
 þāt hire wið halse heard grāpode,
 bān-hringas brāc, bil eal purh-wōd
 fægne flæsc-homan, heó on flet gecrong ;
 1570 sweord wās swātig, secg weorce gefeh.
 Lixte se leóma, leóht inne stōd,
 efne swā of hefene hādre scíneð
 rodores candel. He äfter recede wlāt,
 hwearf þā be wealle, wæpen hafenaðe
 1575 heard be hiltum Higelāces þegn,
 yrre and ân-ræd. Näs seó ecg fracod
 hilde-rince, ac he hraðe wolde
 Grendle forgyldan gūð-ræsa fela
 þāra þe he geworhte tō West-Denum

1580 oftor miele þonne on ænne sīð,
 þonne he Hrōðgāres heorð-geneátas
 slōh on swoefote, slæpende frāt
 folees Denigea fýf-tyne men
 and ððer swylc ðt of-ferede,

1585 lāðlicu lāc. He him þās leán forgeald,
 rēðe eempa, tō þās þe he on rāste geseah
 gūð-wērigne Grendel liegan,
 ałdor-leásne, swā him ær gescōd
 hild ät Heorote; hrā wīde sprong,

1590 syððan he äfter deáðe drepe þrowade,
 heoro-sweng heardne, and hine þā heáfde beeearf.
 Sōna þät gesawon snottre ceorlas,
 þā þe mid Hrōðgāre on holm wliton,
 þät wās yð-geblond eal gemenged,

1595 brim blōde fāl: blonden-feaxe
 gomele ymb gōdne ongeador spræeon,
 þät hig þās äðelinges eft ne wēndon,
 þät he sige-hrēðig sēcean eðine
 mærne þeóden; þā þās monige gewearð,

1600 þät hine seó brim-wylf åbroten häfde.
 þā eom nōn däges. Nās ofgeāfon
 hwate Seyldingas; gewāt him hām þonon
 gold-wine gumena. Gistas sētan,
 mōdes seóee, and on mere staredon,

1605 wiston and ne wēndon, þät hie heora wine-drihten
 selfne gesawon. þā þät sveord ongan
 äfter heaðo-swāte hilde-gieelum
 wig-bil wanian; þät wās wundra sum,
 þät hit eal gemealt ðse gelieost,

1610 þonne forstes bend fäder onlæteð,
 onwindeð wäl-rāpas, se þe geweald hafað
 sæla and mæla; þät is sōð metod.
 Ne nom he in þæm wienm, Weder-Geáta leóð,
 māðm-æhta mā, þēh he þær monige geseah,

1615 bûton þone hafelan and þâ hilt somod,
 since fâge; sweord ær gemealt,
 forbarn broden mæl: wâs þât blôd tô þâs hât,
 ættren ellor-gæst, se þær inne swealt.
 Sôna wâs on sunde, se þe ær ât sâcce gebâd

1620 wîg-hryre wrâðra, wâter up þurh-deâf;
 wæron ȳð-geblund eal gefâlsod,
 eâcne eardas, þâ se ellor-gâst
 oflêt lîf-dagas and þâs lænan gesceaft.
 Com þâ tô lande lid-manna helm

1625 swið-môd swymman, sæ-lâce gefeah,
 mägen-byrðenne þâra þe he him mid hâfde.
 Eodon him þâ tðgeânes, gode þancodon,
 þryðlîc þegna heâp, þeâdnes gefêgon,
 þâs þe hi hyne gesundne geseón môston.

1630 þâ wâs of þâm hrôran helm and byrne
 lungre âlýsed: lagu drusade,
 wâter under wolenum, wâl-dreore fâg.
 Fêrdon forð þonon fêðe-lâstum
 ferhðum fâgne, fold-weg mæton,

1635 cûðe stræte; cyning-balde men
 from þâm holm-clife hafelan bæron
 earfoðlîce heora æghwâðrum
 fela-môdigrâ: feower scoldon
 on ðâm wâl-stenge weorcum geferian

1640 tô þâm gold-sele Grendles heáfod,
 ðð þât semninga tô sele cômon
 frome fyrd-hwate feðwer-tyne
 Geâta gongan; gum-dryhten mid
 môdig on gemonge meodo-wongas trâd.

1645 þâ com in gân ealdor þegna,
 dæd-cêne mon dôme gewurðad,
 hâle hilde-deór, Hrôðgâr grêtan:
 þâ wâs be feaxe on flet boren
 Grendles heáfod, þær guman druncon,

1650 egeslīc for eorlum and þære idese mid:
wlite-seón wrātlīc weras onsāwon.

XXV. HROTHGAR's GRATITUDE: HE DISCOURSES.

BEÓWULF maðelode, bearn Ecgþeðwes:
 “Hwät! we þe þās sæ-lāc, sunu Healfdenes,
 “leód Scyldinga, lustum brōhton,
 1655 “tires tō tācne, þe þu her tō lōcast.
 “Ic þät unsōfte ealdre gedigde:
 “wīge under wätere weorc genēðde.
 “earfoðlīce, ät-rihte wäs
 “gūð getwæfed, nymðe mec god scylde.
 1660 “Ne meahte ic ät hilde mid Hruntinge
 “wiht gewyrcan, þeáh þät wæpen duge,
 “ac me geñðe ylda waldend,
 “þät ic on wage geseah wlitig hangian
 “eald sweord eácen (oftost wiðode
 1665 “winigea leásum) þät ic þý wæpne gebräd.
 “Ofslōh þā ät þære sācce (þā me sāl āgeald)
 “hūses hyrdas. þā þät hilde-bil
 “forbarn, brogden mæl, swā þät blōd gesprang,
 “hātost heāðo-swāta: ic þät hilt þānan
 1670 “feóndum ätferede; fyren-dæda wräc,
 “deáð-cwealm Denigea, swā hit gedēfe wäs.
 “Ic hit þe þonne gehāte, þät þu on Heorote mōst
 “sorh-leás swefan mid þīnra secga gedryht,
 “and þegna gehwylc þīnra leóda,
 1675 “duguðe and iogoðe, þät þu him ondrædan ne þearft,
 “þeóden Scyldinga, on þā healfe,
 “aldor-bealu eorlum, swā þu ær dydest.”
 þā wäs gylden hilt gamelum rince,
 hārum hild-fruman, on hand gyfen,
 1680 enta ær-geweorc, hit on æht gehwearf

1715 "eaxl-gesteallan, ðð þät he åna hwearf,
 "mære þeoden. mon-dreánum from:
 "þeáh þe hine mihtig god mägenes wynnun,
 "eafeðum stépte, ofer ealle men
 "forð gefremede, hwäðere him on ferhðe greów

1720 "breóst-hord blôd-reów: nallas beágas geaf
 "Denum äfter dôme; dreám-leás gebâd,
 "þät he þás gewinnes weorc þrowade,
 "leód-bealo longsum. þu þe lær be þon,
 "gum-cyste ongit! ic þis gid be þe

1725 "åwräc wintrum frôd. Wundor is tô secganne,
 "hû mihtig god manna cynne
 "þurh sidne sefan snyttru bryttað,
 "eard and eorl-scipe, he åh ealra geweald.
 "Hwîlum he on lufan laeteð hworfan

1730 "monnes môd-geþonc mæran cynnes,
 "seleð him on êðle eorðan wynne,
 "tô healdanne hleó-burh wera,
 "gedêð him swâ gewealdene worolde dælas,
 "sîde rice, þät he his selfa ne mäg

1735 "for his un-snyttrum ende geþencean;
 "wunað he on wiste, nô hîne wiht dweleð,
 "âdl ne yldo, ne him inwit-sorh
 "on sefan sweorceð, ne gesacu ðhwær,
 "ecg-hete eóweð, ac him eal worold

1740 "wendeð on willan; he þät wyrse ne con,
 "ðð þät him on innan ofer-hygda dæl
 "weaxeð and wridað, þonne se weard swefeð,
 "sâwele hyrde: bið se slæp tô fâst,
 "bisgum gebunden, bona swîðe neáh,

1745 "se þe of flân-bogan fyrenum sceóteð.

XXVI.

THE DISCOURSE IS ENDED.—BEÓWULF PREPARES
TO LEAVE.

“ þonne bið on hreðre under helm drepen
 “ biteran’ sträle : him bebeorgan ne con
 “ wom wundor-bebodum wergan gâstes ;
 “ þinceð him tô lytel, þât he tô lange heôld,
 1750 “ gýtsað grom-hydig, nallas on gylp seleð
 “ fätte beágas and he þâ forð-gesceaft
 “ forgyteð and forgýmeð, þás þe him ær god sealde,
 “ wuldres waldend, weorð-mynda dæl.
 “ Hit on ende-stäf eft gelimpeð,
 1755 “ þât se líc-homa læne gedreóseð,
 “ fæge gefealleð ; fêhð ôðer tô,
 “ se þe unmurnlice mâdmas dæleð,
 “ eorles ær-gestreón, egesan ne gýmeð.
 “ Bebeorh þe þone bealo-nið, Beówulf leófa,
 1760 “ seeg se betsta, and þe þât sêlre geceós,
 “ êce rædas ; oferhyda ne gým,
 “ mære cempa ! Nu is þines mägnes blæd
 “ âne hwile ; eft sôna bið,
 “ þât þec âdl oððe ecg eafoðes getwæfeð,
 1765 “ oððe fýres feng oððe flôdes wylm,
 “ oððe gripe mēces oððe gâres fliht,
 “ oððe atol yldo, oððe eágena bearhtm
 “ forsiteð and forsworceð semninga bið.
 “ þât þec, dryht-guma, deáð oferswýðeð.
 1770 “ Swâ ic Hring-Dena hund missera
 “ weôld under wolcnum, and hig wige beleác
 “ manigum mægða geond þysne middan-geard,
 “ äscum and egcum, þât ic me ænigne
 “ under swégles begong gesacan ne tealde.

1775 "Hwät! me þäs on ēðle -edwenden cwom,
 "gyrn äfter gomene, seoððan Grendel wearð,
 "eald-gewinna, in-genga män:
 "ic þære sōcne singales wāg
 "mōd-ceare micle. Þäs sig metode þanc,

1780 "ēcean drihtne, þäs þe ic on aldre gebād,
 "þät ic on þone hafelan heoro-dreōrigne
 "ofer eald gewin eágum starige!
 "Gā nu tō setle, symbol-wynne dreōh
 "wig-geweorðad: unc sceal worn fela

1785 "māðma gemænra, siððan morgen bið."
 Geát wäs gläd-mōd, geóng sōna tō,
 setles neósan, swā se snottra hēht.
 Þā wäs eft swā aer ellen-rōfum,
 flet-sittendum fāgere gereorded

1790 niówan stefne. Niht-helm geswearc
 deorc ofer dryht-gumum. Duguð eal ārās;
 wolde blonden-feax beddes neósan,
 gamela Scylding. Geát ungemetes wel,
 rōfne rand-wīgan restan lyste:

1795 sōna him sele-þegn siðes wērgum,
 feorran-cundum forð wīsade,
 se for andrysnum ealle beweotede
 þegnes þearfe, swylce þý dōgore
 heáðo-līðende habban scoldon.

1800 Reste hine þā rūm-heort; reced hlifade
 geáp and gold-fāh, gäst inne swäf,
 ðð þät hrefn blaca heofones wynne
 blið-heort bodode. Þā com beorht sunne
 scaan ofer grundas; scaðan onetton,

1805 wæron äðelingas eft tō leódum
 fūse tō farenne, wolde feor þanon
 cuma collen-ferhð ceóles neósan.
 Hēht þā se hearda Hrunting beran,
 sunu Ecglāfes, hēht his sveord niman,

1810 leóflíc ìren ; sägde him þäs leánes þanc,
 cwäð he þone gûð-wine gôdne tealde,
 wig-cräftigne, nales wordum lôg
 mëces ecge : þät wäs môdig secg.
 And þâ sið-frome searwum gearwe
 1815 wigend wäron, eode weorð Denum
 äðeling tô yppan, þær se ððer wäs
 häle hilde-deór, Hrôðgâr grêtte.

XXVII. THE PARTING WORDS.

BeÓWULF maðelode, bearn Ecgþeówes :
 " Nu we sæ-liðend . secgan wyllað
 1820 " feorran cumene, þät we fundiað
 " Higelâc sêcan. Wäron her tela
 " willum bewenede ; þu ûs wel dohtest.
 " Gif ic þonne on eorðan ðwihte mäg
 " þinre môd-lufan mâran tilian,
 1825 " gumena dryhten, þonne ic gyt dyde,
 " gûð-geweorca ic beó gearo sôna.
 " Gif ic þät gefricege ofer flôda begang,
 " þät þec ymbe-sittend egesan þywað,
 " swâ þec hetende hwîlum dydon,
 1830 " ic þe þûsenda þegna bringe,
 " häleða tô helpe. Ic on Higelâce wât,
 " Geáta dryhten, þeâh þe he geong sý,
 " folces hyrde, þät he mec fremman wile
 " wordum and worcum, þät ic þe wel herige,
 1835 " and þe tô geóce gâr-holt bere
 " mägenes fultum, þær þe bið manna þearf;
 " gif him þonne Hrêðric tô hofum Geáta
 " geþingeð, þeódnes bearn, he mäg þær fela
 " freónda findan : feor cýððe beóð
 1840 " sêlran gesôhte þäm þe him selfa deâh."

Hrðögár maðelode him on andsware :
 “ þe þá word-cwydas wittig drihten
 “ on sefan sende ! ne hýrde ic snotorlīcor
 “ on swâ geongum feore guman þingian :
 1845 “ þu eart mägenes strang and on môde frôd,
 “ wîs word-cwida. Wên ic talige,
 “ gif þât gegangeð, þât þe gâr nymeð,
 “ hild heoru-grimme Hrêðles eaferan,
 “ âdl oððe fren ealdor þinne,
 1850 “ folces hyrde, and þu þin feorh hafast,
 “ þât þe Sæ-Geátas sêlran näbben
 “ tô geceósenne cyning ænigne,
 “ hord-weard häleða, gif þu healdan wylt
 “ maga rîce. Me þin môd-sefa
 1855 “ lîcað leng swâ wel, leófa Beówulf :
 “ hafast þu gefêred, þât þâm folcum sceal,
 “ Geáta leódum and Gâr-Denum
 “ sib gemænum and sacu restan,
 “ inwit-niðas, þe hie ær drugon ;
 1860 “ wesan, þenden ic wealde wîdan rîces,
 “ mâðmas gemæne, manig ððerne
 “ gôdum gegrêtan ofer ganotes bâð ;
 “ sceal hring-naca ofer heáðu bringan
 “ lâc and luf-tâcen. Ic þâ leóde wât
 1865 “ ge wið feónd ge wið freónd fâste geworhte,
 “ æglwâs untæle ealde wîsan.”
 þâ git him eorla hleó inne gesealde,
 mago Healfdenes mâðmas twelfe,
 hêt hine mid þem lâcum leóde swæse
 1870 sêcean on gesyntum, snâde est cuman.
 Gecyste þâ cyning äðelum gôd,
 þeóden Scildinga þegen betstan
 and be healse genam ; hruron him teáras,
 blonden-feaxum : him wâs bega wên,
 1875 ealdum infrôdum, ððres swiðor,

þät hî seoððan geseón mðston
 mðdige on meðle. Wäs him se man tō þon leðf,
 þät he þone breóst-wylm forberan ne mehte,
 ac him on hreðre hyge-bendum fäst
 1880 äfter deórum men dyrne langað
 beorn wið blöde. 'Him Beówulf þanan,
 gûð-rinc gold-wlanc gräs-moldan träd,
 since hrêmig: sæ-genga bâd
 âgend-freán, se þe on ancre râd.
 1885 þâ wäs on gange gifu Hrðögâres
 oft geæhted: þät wäs ân eyning
 æghwâs orleahtre, öð þät hine yldo benam
 mägenes wynnnum, se þe oft manegum scôd.

XXVIII.

BEÓWULF RETURNS TO GEATLAND.—THE QUEENS
HYGD AND THRYTHO.

Cwom þâ tō flöde fela-mðdigra
 1890 häg-stealdra *hedp*; hring-net baeron,
 locene leoðo-syrcan. Land-weard onfand
 eft-sið eorla, swâ he ær dyde;
 nð he mid hearme of hliðes nosan
 gästas grëtte, ac him tógeánes râd;
 1895 cwäð þät wilcuman Wedera leódum
 scawan scîr-hame tō scipe fôron.
 þâ wäs on sande sæ-geáp naca
 hladen here-wædum, hringed-stefna
 mearum and mâðnum: mäst hlifade
 1900 ofer Hrðögâres hord-gestreónum.
 He þäm bât-wearde bunden golde
 swurd gesealde, þät he syððan wäs
 on meodu-bence mâðme þý weorðra,

yrfe-lafe, Gewāt him on ȳð-naean,
 1905 drēfan deóp wäter, Dena land ofgeaf.
 Pā wās be māste mere hrägla sum,
 segl såle fäst. Sund-wudu þunede,
 nō þær wēg-flotan wind ofer ȳðum
 sīðes getwæfde; sæ-genga fōr,
 1910 fleát fāmig-heals forð ofer ȳðe,
 bunden-stefna ofer brim-streámas,
 þät hie Geáta clifu ongitan meahton,
 cūðe nässas. Ceól up geþrang,
 lyft-geswenced on lande stōd.
 1915 Hraðe wās ät holme hȳð-weard gearo,
 se þe ær lange tīd, leófra manna
 fūs, ät faroðe feor wlātode;
 saelde tō sande sīd-fäðme scip
 oncer bendum fäst, þȳ läs hym ȳða þrym
 1920 wndu wynsuman forwrecan meahte.
 Hēt pā up beran äðelinga gestreón,
 frätwe and fät-gold; nās him feor þanon
 tō gesēcanne sincees bryttan:
 Higelāc Hrēðling þær ät hām wunað,
 1925 selfa mid gesfōum sæ-wealle neáh;
 bold wās betlic, brego-rōf cyning,
 heá on healle, Hygd swiðe geong,
 wīs, wel-þungen, þeáh þe wintra lyt
 under burh-locan gebiden häbbe
 1930 Häreðes dōhtor: nās hió hnāh swā þeáh,
 ne tō gneáð gifa Geáta leódum,
 māðm-gestreóna. Mōd þryðo wäg,
 fremu folces cwēn, firen ondrysne:
 nænig þät dorste deór genēðan
 1935 swæsra gesiða, nefne sin-freá,
 þät hire an däges eágum starede;
 ac him wäl-bende weotode tealde,
 hand-gewriðene: hraðe seoððan wās

äfter mund-gripe mēce geþinged,
 1940 þät hit sceāen-mæl scyran mōste,
 cwealm-bealu cŷðan, Ne bið swylc cwēnlīc þeaw
 idese tō efnanne, þeah þe hió aenlīcu sŷ,
 þätte freoðu-webbe feores onsäce
 äfter līge-torne leófne mannan.

1945 Hūru þät onhðhsnode Heminges mæg ;
 ealo drincende ððer sædan,
 þät hió leód-bealewa läs gefremede,
 inwit-niða, syððan ærest wearð
 gyfen gold-hroden geongum cempan,

1950 äðelum dióre, syððan hió Offan flet
 ofer fealone flð be fäder lâre
 sîðe gesðhte, þær hió syððan wel
 in gum-stðle, góde mære,
 lif-gesceafta lifigende breác,

1955 hióld heáh-lufan wið häleða brego,
 ealles mon-cynnes mîne gefræge
 þone sêlestan bî säm tweónum
 eormen-cynnes ; forþam Offa wäs
 geofum and gûðum gár-cêne man,

1960 wîde geweorðod ; wîsdôme heold
 êðel sînne, þonon Eómaer wðc
 häleðum tō helpe, Heminges mæg,
 nefä Gârmundes, niða cräftig.

XXIX. HIS ARRIVAL. HYGELAC'S RECEPTION.

GEWÂT him þâ se hearda mid his hond-scole
 1965 sylf äfter sande sæ-wong tredan,
 wide waroðas. Woruld-candel scân,
 sigel sûðan fûs : hî sîð drugon,
 elne geeodon, tō þâs þe eorla hleð,

bonan Ongenþeowes burgum on innan,
 1970 geongne gûð-cyning gôdne gefrunon
 hringas dælan. Higelâce wäs
 sið Beowulfes snûde gecyðed,
 þat þær on worðig wigendra hleð,
 lind-gestealla lifigende cwom,
 1975 heaðo-lâces hâl tô hofe gongan.
 Hraðe wäs gerymed, swâ se rîca bebeád,
 fêðe-gestum flet innan-weard.
 Gesät þâ wið sylfne, se þâ sâcce genâs,
 mæg wið mæge, syððan man-dryhten
 1980 þurh hleððor-cwyde holdne gegrêtte
 meaglum wordum. Meodu-scencum
 hwearf geond þat reced Hâreðes dôhtor:
 lufode þâ leôde, lîð-wæge bär
 hælum tô handa. Higelâc ongan
 1985 sînne geseldan in sele þam heán
 fâgre fricgean, hyne fyrwet brâc,
 hwylce Sæ-Geâta sîðas wæron:
 “Hû lomp eów on lâde, leófa Biowulf,
 “þâ þu færinga feorr gehogodest,
 1990 “sâcce sêcean ofer sealt wâter,
 “hilde tô Hiorote? Ac þu Hrðögâre
 “wîd-cûðne weán wihte gebêttest,
 “mærum þeódne? Ic þâs mðd-ceare
 “sorh-wylmum seâð, sîðe ne trûwode
 1995 “leófes mannes; ic þe lange bâd,
 “þat þu þone wâl-gæst wilte ne grêtte,
 “lête Sâð-Dene sylfe geweorðan
 “gûðe wið Grendel. Gode ic þanc seege,
 “þâs þe ic þe gesundne geseóni mðste.”
 2000 Biowulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþiowes:
 “þat is undyrne, dryhten Higelâc,
 “mære gemêting monegum fira,
 “hwylc orleg-hwil uncer Grendles

“ wearð on þam wange, þær he worna fela
 2005 “ Sige-Scildingum sorge gefremede,
 “ yrmðe tō aldre; ie þät eal gewräc,
 “ swā ne gylpan þearf Grendeles maga
 “ œnig ofer eorðan uht-hlem þone,
 “ se þe lengest leofað lāðan cynnes,
 2010 “ fenne bifongen. Ie þær furðum cwom,
 “ tō þam hring-sele Hrōdgår grētan:
 “ sôna me se mæra mago Healfdenes,
 “ syððan he mōd-sefan mînne cûðe,
 “ wið his sylfes sunu setl getæhte.
 2015 “ Weorod wäs on wynne; ne seah ic wîdan feorh
 “ under heofenes hwealf heal-sittendra
 “ medu-dreám māran. Hwîlum mæru cwên.
 “ friðu-sibb folca flet eall geond-hwearf,
 “ bædde byre geonge; oft hió beáh-wriðan
 2020 “ secge sealde,ær hió tō setle geóng.
 “ Hwîlum for duguðe dôhtor Hrōdgâres
 “ eorlum on ende ealu-wæge bär,
 “ þâ ic Freáware flet-sittende
 “ nemnan hýrde, þær hió nägled sinc
 2025 “ häleðum sealde sió gehâten wäs,
 “ geong gold-hroden, gladum suna Frôdan;
 “ hafað þâs geworden wine Scyldinga
 “ rîces hyrde and þät ræd talað,
 “ þät he mid þý wife wäl-fæhða dæl,
 2030 “ säcca gesette. Oft nô seldan hwær
 “ äfter leôd-hryre lytle hwile
 “ bon-går bûgeð, þeáh seó brýd duge!

XXX. BEÓWULF'S STORY OF THE SLAYINGS.

“ MÄG þäs þonne ofþyncan þeóden Heaðobeardna
 “ and þegna gehwam þāra leóda,
 2035 “ þonne he mid fæmnan on flett gæð,
 “ dryht-bearn Dena dugnða biwenede :
 “ on him gladiað gomelra lāfe
 “ heard and liring-mæl, Heaðobeardna gestreón,
 “ þenden hie þām wæpnum wealdan móston,
 2040 “ ðð þät hie forlæddan tō þam lind-plegan
 “ swæse gesiðas ond hyra sylfra feorh.
 “ þonne cwið ät beóre, se þe beáh gesyhð,
 “ eald äsc-wīga, se þe eall geman
 “ gār-ewealm gumena (him bið grim sefa),
 2045 “ onginneð geðmor-môd geongne cempan
 “ þurh hreðra gehygð higes cunnian,
 “ wīg-bealu weccean and þät word äewyð :
 “ ‘ Meaht þu, mîn wine, mîece geenâwan,
 “ ‘ þone þin fäder tō gefeohte bär
 2050 “ ‘ under bere-grîman hindeman sîðe,
 “ ‘ dîre ïren, þær hyne Dene slôgon,
 “ ‘ weóldon wäl-stôwe (syððan wiðer-gyld läg
 “ ‘ äfter hâleða hryre) hwate Scyldungas?
 “ ‘ Nu her þāra banena byre nât-hwylces,
 2055 “ ‘ frätwum hrêmig on flet gæð, ,
 “ ‘ morðres gylpeð and þone mâððum byreð,
 “ ‘ þone þe þu mid rihte rædan sceoldest! ” ”
 “ Manað swâ and myndgað mæla gehwylce
 “ sârum wordum, ðð þät sael cymeð,
 2060 “ þät se fæmnan þegn fore fäder dædum
 “ äfter billes bite blôd-fâg swefeð,
 “ ealdres scyldig ; him se ðcer þonan
 “ losað lifigende, eon him land geare.

“ þonne bióð brocene on bā healfe
 2065 “ að-sweord eorla; syððan Ingelde
 “ weallað wäl-niðas and him wif-lufan
 “ äfter cear-wälmum cōlran weorðað.
 “ þý ic Hœðobeardna hyldo ne telge,
 “ dryht-sibbe dæl Denum unfæcne,
 2070 “ freónd-scipe fästne. Ic sceal forð sprecan
 “ gen yinbe Grendel, þät þu geare cunne,
 “ sincees brytta, tō hwan syððan wearð
 “ hond-ræs häleða. Syððan heofones gim
 “ glâd ofer grundas, gäst yrre cwom,
 2075 “ eatol æfen-grôm, fuser neósan,
 “ þær we gesunde säl weardodon;
 “ þær wäs Hondsciô hild onsæge,
 “ feorh-bealu fægum, he fyrmeſt.läg,
 “ gyrded cempa; him Grendel wearð,
 2080 “ mærum magu-þegne tō mûð-bonan,
 “ leófes mannes lîc eall forswealg.
 “ Nô þýær ût þâ gen idel-hende
 “ bona blôdig-tôð bealewa gemyndig,
 “ of þam gold-sele gongan wolde,
 2085 “ ac he mägnes rôf mîn costode,
 “ grâpode gearo-folm. Glôf hangode
 “ sîl and syllîc searo-bendum fäst,
 “ siô wäs orþoncum eall gegyrwed
 “ deófles cräftum and dracan fellum:
 2090 “ he mec þær on innan unsynnigne,
 “ diór dæd-fruma, gedðn wolde,
 “ manigra sumne: hyt ne mihte swâ,
 “ syððan ic on yrre upp-riht åstôd.
 “ Tô lang ys tô reccenne, hû ic þam leód-sceaðan
 2095 “ yfla gehwylces ond-leán forgeald;
 “ þær ic, þeóden mîn, þîne leôde
 “ weorðode weorcum. He on weg losade,
 “ lytle hwile lif-wynna breác;

“ hwäðre him sió swiðre swaðe weardade
 2100 “ hand on Hiorte and he heán þonan,
 “ mōdes geðmor mere-grund gefeóll.
 “ Me þone wäl-ræs wine Scildunga
 “ fättan golde fela leánode,
 “ manegum māðmum, syððan mergen com
 2105 “ and we tō symble geseten häfdon.
 “ þær wäs gidd and gleó; gomela Scilding
 “ fela fricgende feorran rehte;
 “ hwílum hilde-deór hearpan wynne,
 “ gomen-wudn grête; hwílum gyd áwräc
 2110 “ sôð and sârlíc; hwílum syllíe spell
 “ rehte äfter rihte rûm-heort cyning.
 “ Hwílum eft ongan eldo gebunden,
 “ gomel gûð-wiga giognðe cwíðan
 “ hilde-strengo; hreðer inne weóll,
 2115 “ þoune he wintrum frôd worn gemunde.
 “ Swâ we þær inne andlangne dâg
 “ nióde nâman, ðð þât niht becwom
 “ ððer tō yldum. þâ wäs eft hraðe
 “ gearo gynn-wrâce Grendeles mðdor,
 2120 “ siðode sorh-full; sunu deáð fornam,
 “ wîg-hete Wedra. Wif unhýre
 “ hyre bearн gewrâc, beorn ácwealde
 “ ellenlîce; þær wäs Äsc-here,
 “ frôdan fyrn-witan, feorh ððgenge;
 2125 “ nððer hy hine ne mðston, syððan mergen cwom,
 “ deáð-wêrigne Denia leóde
 “ bronde forbärnan, ne on bæl hladan
 “ leófne mannan: hió jät lîc ätbär
 “ feóndes fâðmum under firgen-streám.
 2130 “ þât wäs Hrðgâre hreówa tornost
 “ þâra þe leód-fruman lange begeâte;
 “ þâ se þeóden mec þine lýfe
 “ healsode hreóh-môd, þât ic on holma geþring

“ eorl-scipe efnde, ealdre genēðde,
 2135 “ mærðo fremede: he me mēde gehēt.
 “ Ic þā þās wälmes, þe is wide cūð,
 “ grimne gryrelīcne grund-hyrdē fond.
 “ þær unc hwile wās hand gemæne;
 “ holm heolfre weóll and ic heáfde becearf
 2140 “ in þam grund-sele Grendelēs mōdor
 “ eácnūm ecgum, unsōfste þonan
 “ feorh ðōferede; nās ic fæge þā gyt,
 “ ac me eorla hleo eft gesealde
 “ māðma menigeo, maga Healfdenes.

XXXI.

HE GIVES PRESENTS TO HYGELAC. HYGELAC
 REWARDS HIM. HYGELAC'S DEATH.
 BEÓWULF REIGNS.

2145 “ Swā se þeód-kyning þeáwnum lyfde;
 “ nealles ic þām leánum forloren hāfde, *
 “ māgnes mēde, ac he me māðmas geaf,
 “ sunu Healfdenes, on sīnne sylfes dōm;
 “ þā ic þe, beorn-cyning, bringan wylle,
 2150 “ ēstum geýwan. Gen is eall ät þe
 “ lissa gelong: ic lyt hafo
 “ heáfod-māga, nefne Hygelāc þec!”
 Hēt þā in heran eafor, heáfod-segn,
 heāðo-steápne helm, hāre byrnān,
 2155 gūð-sweord geatolic, gyd äfter wrāc;
 “ Me þis hilde-sceorp Hrōðgār sealde,
 “ snotra fengel, sume worde hēt,
 “ þāt ic his ærest þe eft gesägde,
 “ cwāð þāt hyt hāfde Hiorogār cyning,
 2160 “ leóð Scyldunga lange hwile;

“ nô þý ær suna sînum syllan wolde,
 “ hwatum Heorowearde, þeâh he him hold wære,
 “ breóst-gewædu. Brûc ealles well ! ”

Hýrde ic þât þâm frâtwum feówer mearas

2165 lungre gelice lâst weardode,
 äppel-fealuwe ; he him êst geteâh
 meara and mâðma. Swâ sceal mæg dôn,
 nealles inwit-net ððrum bregdan,
 dyrnum cräfte deâð rênian

2170 hond-gesteallan. Hygelâce wâs,
 nîða heardum, uefa swýðe hold
 and gehwâðer ððrum hrôðra gemyndig.

Hýrde ic þât he þone heals-beâh Hygde gesealde,
 wrâtlincne wundur-mâððum, þone þe him Wealhþeó gcaf,

2175 þeódues dôhþor, þrið wicg somod
 swancor and sadol-beorht ; hyre syððan wâs
 äfter beâli-þege breóst geweorðod.

Swâ bealdode bearn Ecgþeówes,
 guma gûðum cûð, gôðum dædum,

2180 dreâh äfter dôme, nealles druncne slôg
 heorð-geneâtas ; nâs him hreóh sefa,
 ac he man-cynnes mæste cräfte
 gin-fästan gife, þe him god sealde,
 heôld hilde-deôr. Heán wâs lange,

2185 swâ hyne Geáta bearn gôðne ne tealdon,
 ne hyne on medo-bence micles wyrðne
 drihten wereda gedðon wolde ;
 swýðe oft sügdon, þât he sleac wære,
 äðeling unfroin : edwenden cwom

2190 tîr-câdigum menn torna gehwylces.
 Hêt þâ eorla hleó in gefetian,
 heaðo-rôf cyning, Hrêðlcs lâfe,
 golde gegyrede ; nâs mid Geátum þâ
 sinc-mâððum sêlra on sweordes hâd ;
 2195 þât he on Biówulfes bearne allegde,

and him gesealde seofan þūsendo,
bold and brego-stôl. Hîm wäs bâm samod
on þam leôd-scipe lond gecynde,
eard êðel-riht, ððrum swiðor
2200 sîde rîce, þam þær sêlra wäs.
Eft þât geiode usaran dôgrum
hilde-hlæmmum, syððan Hygelâe lâg
and Heardrêde hilde-mêceas
under bord-lireðan tô bonan wurdon,
2205 þâ hyne gesðlitan on sige-þeode
hearde hilde-freean, Heaðo-Seilfingas,
nîða genægðan nefan Hererîces.
Syððan Beôwulfe brâde rîce
on hand gehwearf: he geheôld tela
2210 fiftig wintru (wäs þâ frôd cyning,
eald êðel-weard), ðð þât ân ongan
deoreum nihtum draca rîesian,
se þe on heâre hæðe hord beweotode,
stân-beorh steâpne: stîg under lâg,
2215 eldum uncûð. Þær on innan gióng
niða nât-hwylces neódu gesfêng
hæðnum horde hond . d . . geþ . . hwyle
since fâhne, he þât syððan
. þ . . lð . þ . . l . g
2220 slæpende be fîre, fyrena hyrde
þeófes cräfte, þât sie . . . ðioð
. idh . folc-beorn, þât he gebolgen wäs.

XXXII. THE FIRE-DRAKE. THE HOARD.

NEALLES mid geweoldum wyrm-horda . . . cräft
sôhte sylfes willum, se þe him sâre gesceôd,
2225 ac for þreá-nêdlan þeôw nât-hwylces
hâleða bearna hete-swengeas fleáh,

for ofer-þearfe and þær inne fealh
 secg syn-bysig. Sôna in þâ tide
 þät þam gyste br. g. stôd,
 2230 hwâðre earm-sceapen
 .. ð . . . sceapen o . . . i r . . e se fæs begeat,
 sinc-fât geseah: þær wâs swylcra fela
 in þam eorð-scrâfe ær-gestreóna,
 swâ hy on geâr-dagum gumena nât-hwyle
 2235 eormen-lâfe äðelan cynnes
 þanc-hyegende þær gehydde,
 deôre mâðmas. Ealle hie deâð fornam
 ærran mælum, and se ân þâ gen
 leôda dnguðe, se þær lengest hwearf,
 2240 weard wine-geðmor wîscete þâs yldan,
 þät he lytel fâc long-gestreóna
 brûcan môste. Beorh eal gearo
 wunode on wonge wâter-ýðum neâh,
 niwe be nässe nearo-cräftum fâst:
 2245 þær on innan bär eorl-gestreóna
 hringa hyrde hard-fyrdne dæl
 fâttan goldes, feâ worda cwâð:
 "Heald þu nu hruse, nu häleð ne môston,
 "eorla æhte. Hwât! hit ær on þe
 2250 "gôde begeâton; gûð-deâð fornam,
 "feorh-bealo frêcne fyra gehwylcne,
 "leôda mînra, þâra þe þis lîf ofgeaf,
 "gesâwon sele-dreám. Nâh hwâ sweord wege
 "oððe fetige fated wæge,
 2255 "drync-fât deôre: duguð ellor seðe.
 "Seal se hearda helm hyrsted golde
 "fatum befeallen: feormiend swefað,
 "þâ þe beado-grîman býwan sceoldon,
 "ge swylce seô here-pâd, siô ät hilde gebâd
 2260 "ofer borda gebrâc bite frena,
 "brosnað äfter beorne. Ne mäg byrnan hring

“ äfter wig-fruman wide fēran
 “ häleðum be healfe ; näs hearpan wyn,
 “ gomen gleó-beámes, ne gōd hafoc
 2265 “ geond säl swingeð, ne se swifta mearh
 “ burli-stede beáteð. Bealo-cwealm hafað
 “ fela feorh-cynna feorr onsended ! ”
 Swâ giðmor-mōd giohðo mænde,
 ân äfter eallum unblīðe hweóp,
 2270 däges and nihtes, ðð þät deáðes wylm
 hrân ät heortan. Hord-wynne fond
 eald uht-sceaða opene standan,
 se þe byrnende biorgas sêceð
 nacod nîð-draca, nihtes fleógeð
 2275 fýre befangen ; hyne fold-bûend
 wide gesðwon. He gewunian sceall
 hlâw under hrusan, þær he hæðen gold
 warað wintrum frôd ; ne byð him wihte þê sêl.
 Swâ se þeód-sceaða þreó hund wintra
 2280 heóld on hrusan hord-ärna sum
 eácen-cräftig, ðð þät hyne âbealh
 mon on mōde : man-dryhtne bär
 fäted wæge, frioðo-wære bâd
 hlâford sînne. Þâ wâs hord râsod,
 2285 onboren beága hord, bêne getiðad
 feá-sceaftum men. Freá sceáwode
 fira fyrn-geweorc forman sîðe.
 þâ se wyrm onwôc, wrôht wâs geniwad ;
 stonc þâ äfter stâne, stearc-hcort onsfand
 2290 feóndes fót-lâst ; he tô forð gestôp,
 dyrnan cräfte, dracan heáfde neáh.
 Swâ mäg unfæge eáðe gedigan
 weán and wräc-sfôd, se þe waldendes
 hyldo gehealdeð. Hord-weard sôhte
 2295 georne äfter grunde, wolde guman findan,
 þone þe him on sweofote sâre geteóde :

hât and hreóh-môd hlæw oft ymbe hwearf,
 ealne ûtan-weardne ; ne þær ænig mon
 wäs on þære wêstenne. Hwâðre hilde gefeh,
 2300 beado-weorees : hwîlum on beorh äthwearf,
 sinc-fât sôhte ; he þât sôna onfand,
 þât häfde gumena sum goldes gefandod
 heâh-gestreóna. Hord-weard onbâd
 earfoðlice, ðð þât æfen cwom ;
 2305 wäs þâ gebolgen beorges hyrde,
 wolde se lâda lîge forgyldan
 drinc-fât dýre. þâ wäs dâg sceacen
 wyrme on willan, nô on wealle leng
 bîdan wolde, ac mid bæle fôr,
 2310 fýre gefýsed. Wäs se fruma egeslic
 leódum on lande, swâ hyt lungre wearð
 on hyra sinc-gifan sâre geendod.

XXXIII.

BEÓWULF RESOLVES TO KILL THE FIRE-DRAKE.

þâ se gäst ongan glêdum spîwan,
 beorht hofu bärnan ; bryne-leóma stôd
 2315 eldum on andan ; nô þær åht cwices
 láð lyft-floga læfan wolde.
 Wäs þâs wyrmes wîg wide gesýne,
 nearo-fâges nîð neán and feorran,
 hû se gûð-sceaða Geáta leóde
 2320 hatode and hýnde : hord eft geseeát,
 dryht-sele dyrnne ær dâges hwile.
 Häfde land-wara lîge befangen,
 bæle and bronde ; beorges getrûwode,
 wîges and wealles : him seó wên geleâh.
 2325 þâ wäs Biówulfe brôga gecýðed
 snûde tð sôðe, þât his sylfes him

bolda sēlest bryne-wylmum mealt,
 gif-stōl Geāta. Pāt þam gōdan wās
 hreōw on hreōre, hyge-sorga māest:
 2330 wēnde se wīsa, þāt he wealdende,
 ofer ealde riht, ēcean dryhtne
 bitre gebulge: breōst innan weōll
 þeōstrum geþoncum, swā him geþywe ne wās.
 Hāfde līg-draca leōda fāsten,
 2335 eā-lond ûtan, eorð-weard þone
 glēdum forgrunden. Him þās gūð-cyning,
 Wedera piōden, wrāce leornode.
 Hēht him þā gewyrcean wīgendra hleō
 eall-īrenne, eorla dryhten
 2340 wīg-bord wrātlīc; wisse he gearwe,
 þāt him holt-wudu helpa ne meahte,
 lind wið līge. Sceolde lāen-daga
 äðeling ær-gōd ende gebīdan
 worulde līfes and se wyrm somod,
 2345 þeāh þe hōrd-welan heōlde lange.
 Oferhogode þā hringa fengel,
 þāt he þone wīd-flogan weorode gesōhte,
 sīdan herge; nō he him þā sācce ondrēd,
 ne him þās wyrmes wīg for wiht dyde,
 2350 eafoð and ellen; forþon he ær fela
 nearo nēðende nīða gedīgde,
 hilde-hlemma, syððan he Hrōðgāres,
 sigor-eādig secg, sele fālsode
 and ät gūðe forgrāp Grendelēs māgum,
 2355 lāðan cynnes. Nō þāt läest wās
 hond-gemota, þār mon Hygelāc slōh,
 syððan Geāta cyning gūðe rāsum,
 freā-wine folces Freslondum on,
 Hrēðles easfora hioro-dryncum swealt,
 2360 bille gebeāten; þonan Biōwulf com
 sylfes crāfte, sund-nytte dreāh;

† hæfde him on earme . . . XXX
 hilde-geatwa, þā he tō holme stāg.
 Nealles Hetware hrēmge Ȥorfton
 2365 fēðe-wīges, þe him foran ongeán
 linde bæron: lyt eft becwom
 fram þam hild-frecan hāmes niósan.
 Oferswam þā sióleða bigong suna Ecgþeówes,
 earm ān-haga eft tō leódum,
 2370 þær him Hygd gebeád hord and rīce,
 beágas and brego-stōl: bearne ne trūwode,
 þāt he wið äl-fylcum ēðel-stōlas
 healdan cūðe, þā wās Hygelāc deád.
 Nō þý aer feá-sceafte findan meahton
 2375 ät þam äðelinge ænige þinga,
 þāt he Heardrēde hlāford wāre,
 oððe þone cyne-dōm ciósan wolde;
 hwāðre he him on folce freónd-lārum heóld,
 ēstum mid āre, ðó þāt he yldra wearð,
 2380 Weder-Geátum weóld. Hyne wräc-mägas
 ofer sæ sōhtan, suna Óhteres:
 häfdon hy forhealden helm Scylsinga,
 þone sēlestān sæ-eyninga,
 þāra þe in Swið-rīce sinc brytnade,
 2385 mærne þeóden. Him þāt tō mearce wearð;
 he þær on feorme feorh-wunde hleát
 sweordes swengum, sunu Hygelāces;
 and him eft gewāt Ongenþiowes bearñ
 hāmes niósan, syððan Heardrēd läg;
 2390 lēt þone brego-stōl Biówulf healdan,
 Geátum wealdan: þāt wās gōd cyning.

XXXIV.

RETROSPECT OF BEÓWULF.—STRIFE BETWEEN
SWEONAS AND GEATAS.

SE þäs leód-hryres leán gemunde
 uferan dōgrum, Eádgilse wearð
 feá-sceaftum feónd. Folce gestepte
 2395 ofer sæ síde sunu Ôhteres
 wígum and wæpnum: he gewräc syððan
 cealdum cear-síðum, cyning ealdre bineát.
 Swā he niða gehwane genesen hæfde,
 slíðra geslyhta, sunu Ecgþiowes,
 2400 ellen-weorca, ðð þone ánnue dág,
 þe he wið þam wyrme gewegan sceolde.
 Gewāt þā twelfa sum torne gebolgen
 dryhten Geáta dracan sceáwian;
 hæfde þā gefrunen, hwanan sió fæhð árás,
 2405 bealo-nið biorna; him tō bearme cwom
 māððum-fät mære þurh þäs meldan hond.
 Se wäs on þam Þreáte þreotteoða secg,
 se þäs orleges ðr onstealde,
 häft hyge-giðmor, sceolde heán þonon
 2410 wong wísiāu: he ofer willan gióng
 tō þäs þe he eorð-sele ánnue wisse,
 hlæw under hrusan holm-wylme nēh,
 ýð-gewinne, se wäs innan full
 wrätta and wíra: weard unhiore,
 2415 gearo gūð-freea, gold-māðmas heóld,
 eald under eorðan; näs þät ýðe ceáp,
 tō gegangenne gumena ænigum.
 Gesät þā on nässe nið-heard cyning,
 þenden hælo ábeád heorð-geneátum
 2420 gold-wine Geáta: him wäs gedmor sefa,
 wäfre and wäl-fús, Wyrd ungemete neáh,

se þone gomelan grêtan sceolde,
 sêcean sâwle hord, sundur gedælan
 lif wið lice: nô þon lange wäs
 2425 feorh ädelinges flæsce bewunden.
 Biówulf maðelade, bearn Ecgþeowes:
 " Fela ic on giogoðe gûð-ræsa genäs,
 " orleg-hwila: ie þät eall gemon.
 " Ic wäs syfan-wintre, þâ mec sinca baldor,
 2430 " freá-wine folca ät mînum fäder genam,
 " heold mec and hâfde Hrêðel cyning,
 " geaf me sinc and symbol, sibbe gemunde;
 " näs ic him tô lîse lâðra ðwihte
 " beorn in bûrgum, þonne his bearna hwyle,
 2435 " Herebeald and Hæðcyn, oððe Hygelâc mîn.
 " Wäs þam yldestan ungedêfelice
 " mæges dædum morðor-bed strêd,
 " syððan hyne Hæðcyn of horn-bogan,
 " his freá-wine flâne geswencte,
 2440 " miste mercelses and his mæg ofseêt,
 " brôðor ðöerne, blôðigan gâre:
 " þät wäs feoh-leás gefeoht, fyrenum gesyngad,
 " hreðre hyge-mêðe; sceolde hwâðre swâ þeâh
 " äðeling unwrecen ealdres linnan.
 2445 " Swâ bið geðmorlic gomelum ceorle
 " tô gebîdanne, þät his byre rîde
 " giong on galgan, þonne he gyd wrece,
 " sârigne sang, þonne his sunu hangað
 " hrefne tô hrôðre and he him helpan ne mæg,
 2450 " eald and in-frôd, ænige gefremman.
 " Symble bið gemyndgad morna gehwylce
 " eaforan ellor-sið; ððres ne gýmeð
 " to gebîdanne burgum on innan
 " yrfe-weardles, þonne se ân hafað
 2455 " þurh deáðes nýd dæda gefondad.
 " Gesýhð sorh-cearig on his suna bûre

“ win-sele wêstne, wind-gereste,
 “ reote berofene; rîdend swefað,
 “ häleð in hoðman; nis þær hearpan swêg,
 2460 “ gomen in geardum, swylce þær iú wæron.

XXXV.

MEMORIES OF PAST TIME.—THE FEUD WITH
THE FIRE-DRAKE.

“ GEWÎTEÐ þonne on sealman, sorh-leóð gâleð
 “ ân äfter ânum: þûlhte him eall tð rûm,
 “ wongas and wîc-stede. Swâ Wedra helm
 “ äfter Herebealde heortan sorge
 2465 “ weallende wâg, wihte ne meahte
 “ on þam feorh-bonan fæhðe gebêtan:
 “ nð þý ær he þone heaðo-rinc hatian ne meahte
 “ lâðum dædum, þeâh him leóf ne wâs.
 “ He þâ mid þære sorge, þe him sið sâr belamp,
 2470 “ gum-dreám ofgeaf, godes leóht geceás;
 “ eaferum læfde, swâ dêð eâdig mon,
 “ lond and leód-byrig, þâ he of life gewât.
 “ þâ wâs synn and sacu Sweona and Geáta.
 “ ofer wîd wâter wrôht gemæne,
 2475 “ here-nîð hearda, syððan Hrêðel swealt,
 “ oððe him Ongenþeowes eaferan wæran
 “ frome fyrd-hwate, freóde ne woldon
 “ ofer heafo healdan, ac ymb Hreosna-beorh
 “ eatolne inwit-scear oft gefremedon.
 2480 “ þât mæg-wine mîne gewræcan,
 “ fæhlðe and fyrene, swâ hyt gefræge wâs,
 “ þeâh þe ððer hit ealdre gebohte,
 “ heardan ceápe: Hæðcynne wearð,
 “ Geáta dryhtne, gûð onsæge.

2485 " þā ie on morgne gefrägn mæg ððerne
 " billes eegum on bonan stælan,
 " þær Ongenþeów Eosores niósade:
 " gûð-helm tôglâd, gomela Scylfing
 " hreás heoro-blâe; hond gemunde,
 2490 " fæhðo genðge, feorh-sweng ne ofteáh.
 " Ic him þā mâðmas, þe he me sealde,
 " geald ât gûðe, swâ me gifeðe wâs,
 " leóhtan sweorde: he me lond forgeaf,
 " eard êðel-wyn. Nâs him ænig þearf,
 2495 " þât he tô Gifðum oððe tô Gâr-Denum
 " oððe in Swið-rîce sêcean þurfe
 " wyrsan wîg-freean, weorðe geeýpan;
 " symle ic him on fêðan beforan wolde,
 " âna on orde, and swâ tô aldre seeall
 2500 " sâcce fremman, þenden þis sweord þolað,
 " þât mec ær and sîð oft gelæste,
 " syððan ie for dugeðum Dâghrefnue wearð
 " tô hand-bonan, Huga eempan:
 " nalles he þâ frätwe Fres-cyninge,
 2505 " breóst-weorðunge bringan môste,
 " ae in eampe gecrong cumbles hyrde,
 " äðeling on elne. Ne wâs eeg bona,
 " ae him hilde-grâp heortan wylmas,
 " bân-hâs gebräe. Nu sceall billes eeg,
 2510 " hond and heard sweord ymb hord wîgan."
 Beowulf maðelode, beót-wordum spräc
 niéhstan sîðe: " Ie genêðde fela
 " gûða on geogoðe; gyt ie wylle,
 " frôd folces weard, fæhðe sêcan,
 2515 " mærðum fremman, gif mee se mân-sceaða
 " of eorð-sele ût gesêeeð!"
 Gegrêtte þâ gumena gehwylene,
 hwate helm-berend hindeman sîðe,
 swæse gesiðas: " Nolde ie sweord beran,

2520 "wæpen tō wyrme, gif ic wiste hū
 " wið þam aglæcean elles meahite
 " gylpe wiðgrípan, swā ic gió wið Grendle dyde;
 " ac ic þær heaðu-fýres hâtes wêne,
 " rēðes and-hâttres: forþon ic me on hafu

2525 "bord and byrnan. Nelle ic beorges weard
 " oferfleón fôtes trem, feónd unhýre,
 " ac une seeal weorðan ät wealle, swā unc Wyrd geteóð,
 " metod manna gehwäs. Ic eom on mōde from,
 " þät ic wið þone gûð-flogan gylp ofersitte.

2530 "Gebide ge on beorge byrnum werede,
 " seegas on searwum, hwäðer sēl mæge
 " äfter wäl-ræse wunde gedýgan
 " uncer twega. Nis þät eower sið,
 " ne gemet mannes, nefne mîn ânes,

2535 "þät he wið aglæcean efoðo dæle,
 " eorl-scype efne. Ic mid elne sceall
 " gold gegangan oððe gûð nimeð,
 " feorh-bealu frêcne, freán eowerne!"

Ârâs þâ bî ronde rôf oretta,

2540 heard under helm, hioro-sercean bär
 under stân-cleofu, strengo getrûwode
 ânes mannes: ne bið swylc earges sið.
 Geseah þâ be wealle, se þe worna fela,
 gum-cystum gôd, gûða gedigde,

2545 hilde-hlemma, þonne hnitan fêðan,
 (stôd on stân-bogan) streám ût þonan
 brecan of beorge; wäs þære burnan wâlm
 heaðo-fýrum hât: ne meahite horde neâh
 unbyrnende ænige hwile

2550 deóp gedýgan for dracan lêge.
 Lêt þâ of breóstum, þâ he gebolgen wäs,
 Weder-Geáta leôd word ût faran,
 stearc-heort styrmde; stefn in becom
 heaðo-torht hlynnan under hârne stân.

2555 Hete wäs onhrêred, hord-weard oneniow
 mannes reorde; näs þær māra fyrst,
 freóde tō friclan. From ærest cwom
 oruð aglæcean ût of stâne,
 hât hilde-swât; hruse dynede.

2560 Biorn under beorge bord-rand onswâf
 wið þam gryre-gieste, Geáta dryhten:
 þâ wäs hring-bogan heorte gefyed
 sâcce tō sêceanne. Sweord ær gebräd
 gôd gûð-cyning gomele lâfe,

2565 ecgum ungleáw, æghwâðrum wäs
 bealo-hycendra brôga fram ððrum.
 Stið-môd gestôd wið steápne rond
 winia bealdor, þâ se wyrn gebeáh
 snûde tôsomnc: he on searwum bâd.

2570 Gewât þâ byrnende gebogen scriðan tð,
 gescîfe scyndan. Scyld wel gebearg
 lîfe and lîce lässan hwile
 mærum þeôdne, þonne his myne sôhte,
 þær he þy fyrste forman dôgore

2575 wealdan inôste, swâ him Wyrd ne gescrâf
 hrêð ät hilde. Hond up âbräd
 Geáta dryhten, gryre-fâhne slôh
 incege lâfe, þât siô ecg gewâc
 brûn on bâne, bât unswiðor,

2580 þonne his piôd-cyning þearfe häfde,
 bysigum gebæded. þâ wäs beorges weard
 äfter heaðu-swenge on hreðum môde,
 wearp wâl-fyre, wide sprungon
 hilde-leóman: hrêð-sigora ne gealp

2585 gold-wine Geáta, gûð-bill geswâc
 nacod ät niðe, swâ hyt nô sceolde,
 ïren ær-gôd. Ne wäs þât êðe sið,
 þât se mæra maga Ecgþeówes
 grund-wong þone ofgyfan wolde;

2590 sceolde *wyrmes* willan wic eardian
 elles hwegen, swâ sceal æghwylc mon
 âlætan læn-dagas. Näs þâ long tâ þon,
 þät þâ aglæcean hy eft gemêtton.
 Hyrte hyne hord-weard, hreðer æðme weóll,
 2595 niwan stefne nearo þrowode
 fýre besfongen se þe ær folie weóld.
 Nealles him on heápe hand-gesteallan,
 äðcliuga bearn ymbe gestðdon
 hilde-eystum, ac hy on holt bugon,
 2600 ealdre burgan. Hiora in ânum weóll
 sefa wið sorgum: sibb æfre ne mæg
 wiht onwendan, þam þe wel þenceð.

XXXVI. WIGLAF HELPS BEÓWULF IN THE FEUD.

WIGLÂF wäs hâten Weoxstânes sunu,
 leóflic lind-wiga, leód Scylfinga,
 2605 mæg Älfheres: geseah his mon-dryhten
 under here-gríman hât þrowian.
 Gemunde þâ þâ âre, þe he him ær forgeaf
 wic-stede weligne Wægmundinga,
 folc-rihta gehwylc, swâ his fäder âlte;
 2610 ne mihte þâ forhabban, hond rond gefêng,
 geolwe linde, gomel swyrd geteáh,
 þät wäs mid eldum Eánmundes lâf,
 suna Ôhteres, þam ät sâcce wearð
 wracu wine-leásum Weohstânes bana
 2615 mëces ecgum, and his mágum ätbär
 brûn-fâgne helm, hringde byrnan,
 eald sweord eotonisc, þät him Onela forgeaf,
 his gädelinges gûð-gewædu,
 fyrd-searo fûslîc: nô ymbe þâ fæhðe spräc,
 2620 þeáh þe he his brôðor bearn abredwade.

He frätwe geheold fela missera,
 bill and byrnan, ðð þät his byre mihte
 eorl-seipe esnan, swā his aer-fäder ;
 geaf him þā mid Geátum gūð-gewæda
 2625 æghwās unrim ; þā he of ealdre gewāt,
 frōd on forð-weg. þā wās forma sīð
 geongan cempan, þät he gūðe ræs
 mid his freó-dryhtne fremman sceolde ;
 ne gemealt him se mōd-sefa, ne his mæges lāf
 2630 gewāc ät wīge : þät se wyrm onfand,
 syððan hie tōgädre gegān häfdon.
 Wiglāf maðelode word-rihta fela,
 sägde gesiðum, him wās sefa geðmor :
 " Ic þät mæl geman, þær we medu þēgun,
 2635 " þonne we gehēton ūssum hlāforde
 " in biór-sele, þe ūs þās beágas geaf,
 " þät we him þā gūð-geatwa gyldan woldon,
 " gif him þyslicu þearf gelumpe,
 " helmas and heard swoord : þē he ūsic on herge geceás
 2640 " tō þyssum sīð-fate sylfes willum,
 " onmunde ūsic mærða and me þās māðmas geaf,
 " þe he ūsic gār-wigend gōde tealde,
 " hwate helm-berend, þeāh þe hlāford ūs
 " þis ellen-weorc āna āþōhte
 2645 " tō gefremmanne, folces hyrde,
 " forþam he manna mæst mærða gefremede,
 " dæda dolliera. Nu is se dāg cumen,
 " þät ūre man-dryhten mägenes behōfað
 " gōdra gūð-rinca : wutun gangan tō,
 2650 " helpan hild-fruman, þenden hyt sȳ,
 " glēd-egesa grim ! God wāt on mec,
 " þät me is micle leófre, þät mīnne līc-haman
 " mid mīnne gold-gyfan glēd fāðmie.
 " Ne þynceð me gerysne, þät we rondas beren
 2655 " eft tō earde, nemne we æror mægen

“ fâne gefyllan, feorh ealgian
 “ Wedra þiðnes. Ic wât geare,
 “ þât næron eald-gewyrht, þât he åna scyle
 “ Geáta duguðe gnorn þrowian,
 2660 “ gesigan ät sâcce: sceal ûrum þât sweord and helm,
 “ byrne and byrdu-scrûd bâm gemæne.”
 Wôd þâ þurh þone wäl-rêc, wîg-heafolan bär
 freán on fultum, feá worda cwäð:
 “ Leófa Biówulf, læst eall tela,
 2665 “ swâ þu on geoguð-feore geâra gecwæde,
 “ þât þu ne âlæte be þe lifigendum
 “ dôm gedreósan: scealt nu dædum rôf,
 “ äðeling ân-hydig, ealle mägene
 “ feorh ealgian; ie þe fullæstu !”
 2670 Äfter þâm wordum wyrm yrre cwom,
 atol inwit-gäst ôðre sîðe,
 fîr-wylmum fâli fiónda niósan,
 lâðra manna; lig-þðum forborn
 bord wið ronde: byrne ne meahste
 2675 geongum gâr-wigan geóce gefremman:
 ac se maga geonga under his mæges scyld
 elne geeode, þâ his âgen wâs
 glêdum forgrunden. þâ gen gûð-cyning
 mærða gemunde, mägen-strengo,
 2680 slôh hilde-bille, þât hyt on heafolan stôd
 niðe genýded: Nâgling forbärst,
 geswâc ät sâcce sweord Biówulfes
 gomol and græg-mæl. Him þât gifeðe ne wâs,
 þât him irenna ecge mihton
 2685 helpan ät hilde; wâs sió hond tô strong,
 se þe mæca gehwane mîne gefræge
 swenge ofersôhte, þonne he tô sâcce bär
 wæpen wundrum heard, nâs him wihte þe sôl.
 þâ wâs þeôd-sceaða þriddan sîðe,
 2690 frêcne fîr-draca fæhða gemyndig,

ræsde on þone rôfan, þâ him rûm âgeald,
 hât and heaðo-grim, heals ealne ymbefêng
 biteran bânum; he geblôdegod wearð
 sâwul-driore; swât fôrum weôll.

XXXVII. BEÓWULF WOUNDED TO DEATH.

2695 þâ ic ät þearfe *gefrägn* þeôd-cyninges
 and-longne eorl ellen eýðan,
 cräft and cêndu, swâ him gecynde wäs;
 ne hêdde hê þäs heafolan, ac siô hand gebarn
 môdiges mannes, þær he his mæges healp,
 2700 þät he þone nîð-gäst nioðor hwêne slôh,
 secg on searwum, þät þät swoord gedeâf
 fâh and fäted, þät þät fîr ongon
 sweðrian syððan. þâ gen sylf cyning
 geweôld his gewitte, wâll-seaxe gebrâd,
 2705 biter and headu-scearp, þät he on byrnan wâg:
 forwrât Wedra helm wyrm on middan.
 Feônd gefyldan (ferh ellen wrâc),
 and hi hyne þâ begen âbroten häfdon,
 sib-âðelingas: swylc sceolde secg wesan,
 2710 þegn ät þearfe. þät þam þeôdne wäs
 stîðast sîge-hwîle sylfes dædum,
 worlde geweorces. þâ siô wund ongon,
 þe him se eorð-draca aer geworhte,
 swêlan and swellan. He þät sôna onfand,
 2715 þät him on breóstum bealo-nîð weôll,
 âttor on innan. þâ se âðeling gióng,
 þät he bî wealle, wîs-hycgende,
 gesät on sesse; seah on enta geweorc,
 hû þâ stân-bogan staphalum fâste
 2720 êce eorð-reced innan heôldon.
 Hyne þâ mid handa heoro-dreórigne

þeóden mærne þegn ungemete till,
 wine-dryhten his wätere gelafede,
 hilde-sädne and his helm onspeón.

2725 Biówulf maðelode, he ofer benne spräc,
 wunde wäl-bleáte (wisse he gearwe,
 þät he däg-hwila gedrogen häfde
 eorðan wynne; þå wäs eall sceacen
 dôgor-gerîmes, deáð ungemete neáh):

2730 " Nu ic suna mînum syllan wolde
 " gûð-gewædu, þær me gifeðe swâ
 " ænig yrfe-weard äfter wurde,
 " lîce gelenge. Ic þás leóde heóld
 " fiftig wintra: näs se folc-cyning

2735 " ymbe-sittendra ænig þâra,
 " þe mec gûð-winum grêtan dorste,
 " egesan þeón. Ic on earde bâd
 " mæl-gesceafta, heóld mîn tela,
 " ne sôhte searo-nîðas, ne me swôr fela

2740 " âða on unriht. Ic þás ealles mäg,
 " feorh-bennum seóc, gefeán habban:
 " forþam me wîtan ne þearf waldend fira
 " morðor-bealo mâga, þonne mîn sceaceð
 " lîf of lîce. Nu þu lungre

2745 " geong, hord sceáwian under hârne stân,
 " Wiglâf leófa, nu se wyrn ligeð,
 " swefeð sâre wund, since bereáfod.
 " Bió nu on ðfoste, þät ic ær-welan,
 " gold-æht ongite, gearo sceáwige

2750 " swegle searo-gimmas, þät ic þý sêft mæge
 " äfter mâððum-welan mîn álaetan
 " lîf and leód-scipe, þone ic longe heóld."

XXXVIII.

THE JEWEL-HOARD. THE PASSING OF BEÓWULF.

þâ ic snûde gefrägn sunu Wihstânes
 äfter word-cwydum wundum dryhtne
 2755 hýran heaðo-siðcum, hring-net beran,
 brogdne beadu-sercean under beorges hrôf.
 Geseah þâ sige-hrêðig, þâ he bî sesse geóng,
 mago-þegn môdig mâððum-sigla fela,
 gold glitinian grunde getenge,
 2760 wundur on wealle and þâs wyrmes denn,
 ealdes uht-flogan, orcas stondan,
 fyrn-manna fatu feormend-leáse,
 hyrstum behrorene: þær wâs helm monig,
 eald and ômig, earm-beága fela,
 2765 searwum gesæled. Sinc eáðe mäg,
 gold on grunde, gumena cynnes
 gehwone ofer-higian, hýde se þe wylle!
 Swylce he siomian geseah segn eall-gylden
 heáh ofer horde, hond-wundra mæst,
 2770 gelocen leoðo-cräftum: of þam leóma stôd,
 þât he þone grund-wong ongitan meahte,
 wrâte giond-wlîtan. Nâs þâs wyrmes þær
 onsýn ænig, ac hyne ecg fornam.
 þâ ic on hlæwe gefrägn hord reáfian,
 2775 eald enta geweorc ânne mannan,
 him on bearm hladan bunan and discas
 sylfes dôme, segn eác genom,
 beácna beorhtost; bill ær-gescôd
 (ecg wâs fren) eald-hlâfordes
 2780 þam þâra mâððma mund-bora wâs
 longe hwile, lîg-egesan wâg
 hâtne for horde, hioro-weallende,

middel-nihtum, ðð þät he morðre swealt.
 År wäs on Ȥfoste eft-siðes georn,
 2785 frätwum gefyrðred : hyne fyrwet bräc,
 hwäðer collen-ferð cwiene gemête
 in þam wong-stede Wedra þeóden,
 ellen-siðene, þær he hine aer forlêt.
 He þa mid þam māðnum mærne þiðen,
 2790 dryhten sinne driðrigne fand
 ealdres ät ende : he hine eft ongon
 wätere weorpan, ðð þät wordes ord
 breóst-hord þurhbräc. *Beowulf maðelode*,
 gomel on giohðe (gold sceawode) :
 2795 " Ic þara frätwa freán ealles þanc
 " wuldur-cyninge wordum secge,
 " ēcum dryhtne, þe ic her on starie,
 " þäs þe ic mōste mīnum leðum
 " aer swylt-däge swyle gestrýnan.
 2800 " Nu ic on māðma hord mīne bebohte
 " frōde feorh-legē, fremmað ge nu
 " leðda þearfe ; ne mäg ic her leng wesan.
 " Hātað heaðo-mære hlæw gewyrcean,
 " beorhtne äfter bæle ät brimes nosan ;
 2805 " se scel tō gemyndum mīnum leðum
 " heāh hlifian on Hrones nässe,
 " þät hit sæ lfðend syððan hātan
 " Biówulfes biorh, þa þe bretingas
 " ofer flôda genipu feorran drîfað."

2810 Dyde him of healse hring gyldenne
 - þiðen þrist-hydig, þegne gesealde,
 geongum gâr-wigan, gold-fâhne helm,
 beâh and byrnan, hêt hyne brûcan well :
 " þu eart ende lâf ûsses cynnes,
 2815 " Waegmundinga ; ealle Wyrd forsweðf,
 " mîne mâgas tō metod-sceafte,
 " eorlas on elne : ic him äfter seeal."

þät wäs þam gomelan gingeste word
breóst-gehygdum, ær he bæl cure,
2820 hâte heaðo-wylmas: him of hreðre gewât
sâwol sêcean, sôð-fästra dôm.

XXXIX. THE COWARD-THANES.

þâ wäs gegongen guman unfrôdum
earfoðlice, þät he on eorðan geseah
þone leófestan lifes ät ende
2825 bleáte gebærان. Bona swylce läg,
egeslic eorð-draca, ealdre bereáfod,
bealwe gebæded: beáh-hordum leng
wyrn woh-bôgen wealdaa ne môste,
ac him frenna ecga fornâmon,
2830 hearde heaðo-scearpe homera lâfe,
þät se wîd-floga wundum stille
hreás on hrusan hord-ärne neáh,
nalles äfter lyfte lâcende hwearf
middel-nihtum, mâðm-æhta wlone
2835 ansýn ðwde: ac he eorðan gefeóll
for þas hild-fruman hond-geweorce.
Hûru þät on lande lyt manna þâh
mägen-âgendra mîne gefræge,
þeáh þe he dæda gehwâs dyrstig wäre,
2840 þät he wið âttor-sceaðan oreðe geræsde,
oððe hring-sele hondum styrede,
gif he wâccende weard onfunde
bûan on beorge. Biówulfe wearð
dryht-mâðma dæl deáðe forgolden;
2845 hâfde æghwâðer ende gefêred
lænan lifes. Näs þâ lang tô þon,
þät þâ hild-latan holt ofgêfan,
tydre treow-logan tyne ätsomne,

þā ne dorston aær dareðum lācan
 2850 on hyra man-dryhtnes miclan þearfe ;
 ac hy scamiende scyldas bæran,
 gūð-gewædu, þær se gomela läg :
 wlitan on Wiglāf. He gewērgad sät,
 fēðe-cempa freán eaxlum neáh,
 2855 wehte hyne wātre ; him wiht ne speów ;
 ne meahte he on eorðan, þeáh he ûðe wel,
 on þam frum-gāre feorh gehealdan,
 ne þās wealdendes willan wiht oncirran ;
 wolde dōm godes dædum rædan
 2860 gumena gehwylcum, swā he nu gen dēð,
 þā wās ät þam geongum grim andswaru
 êð-begête þām þe aær his elne forleás.
 Wiglāf maðelode, Weohstānes sunu,
 seeg sārig-ferð seah ou unleófe :
 2865 " þät lā māg seegan, se þe wyle sōð sprecan,
 " þät se mon-dryhten, se cōw þā māðmas geaf,
 " eōred-geatwe, þe ge þær on standað,
 " þonne he on calu-bence oft gesealde
 " heal-sittendum helm and byrnan,
 2870 " þeóden his þegnum, swylce he þryðlicost
 " ðhwær feor oððe neáh findan meahte,
 " þät he genunga gūð-gewædu
 " wrāðe forwurpe. þā hyne wīg beget,
 " nealles folc-cyning fyrd-gesteallum
 2875 " gylpan þorft ; hwāðre him god ûðe,
 " sigora waldend, þät he hyne sylfne gewräc
 " ána mid euge, þā him wās elnes þearf,
 " Ic him līf-wraðe lytle meahte
 " ätgifan ät gūðe and ongan swā þeáh
 2880 " ofer mīn gemet mæges helpan :
 " symle wās þý sāemra, þonne ic sweorde drep
 " ferhð-genfðlan, fyr unswiðor
 " weóll of gewitte. Wergendra tō lyt

“ þrōng ymbe þeóden, þā hyne sió þrag becwom.
 2885 “ Nu sceal sine-þego and swyrd-gifn
 “ eall ēðel-wyn eówrum cynne,
 “ lufen ǣlīgean: lond-rihtes mōt
 “ þære mæg-burge monna æghwyle
 “ Ȭidel hweorfan, syððan äðelingas
 2890 “ feorran gefrigean fleám eówerne,
 “ dōm-leásan dæd. Deáð bið sēlla
 “ eorla gehwylcūm þonne edwīt-lif!”

XL. THE SOLDIER'S DIRGE AND PROPHECY.

HĒHT þā þät heaðo-weore tō hagan biódan
 up ofer ēg-clif, þær þät eorl-weorod
 2895 morgen-longne dāg mōd-giðmor sät,
 bord-häbbende, bega on wēnum
 ende-dōgores and eft-cymes
 leófes monnes. Lyt swīgode
 niwra spella, se þe nās gerād,
 2900 ac he sōðlīe sāgde ofer ealle;
 “ Nu is wil-geofa Wedra leóda,
 “ dryhten Geáta deáð-bedde fäst,
 “ wunað wäl-reste wyrmes dædum;
 “ him on efn ligeð ealdor-gewinna,
 2905 “ siex-bennum seōe: sweorde ne meahte
 “ on þam aglæeēan ænige þinga
 “ wunde gewyrcean. Wiglāf siteð
 “ ofer Biówulfe, byre Wihstānes,
 “ eorl ofer Ȧðrum unlifigendum,
 2910 “ healdeð hige-mēðum heáfod-wearde,
 “ leófes and lāðes. Nu ys leódum wēn
 “ orleg-hwile, syððan underne
 “ Froueum and Frysum fyll eyninges
 “ wide weorðeð. Wǟs sió wrōht scepen

2915 " heard wið Hugas, syððan Higelāc cwom
 " faran flot-herge on Fresna land,
 " þær hyne Hetware hilde gehnægdon,
 " elne geeodon mid ofer-mägene,
 " þät se byrn-wiga bûgan sceolde,
 2920 " feóll on fêðan: nalles frätwe geaf
 " ealdor dugoðe; ûs wäs å syððan
 " Merewioinga milts ungyfeðe.
 " Ne ic tō Sweó-þeóde sibbe oððe treówe
 " wihite ne wêne; ac wäs wide cûð,
 2925 " þätte Ongenþið ealdre besnyðede
 " Hæðcyn Hrêðling wið Hrefna-wudu,
 " þâ for on-mêdlan ærest gesôhton
 " Geáta leóde Gûð-scilfingas.
 " Sôna him se frôda fäder Ôhtheres,
 2930 " eald and eges-full ond-slyht âgeaf,
 " âbreót brim-wisan, brýd âheórde,
 " gomela ið-meowlan golde berofene,
 " Onelan môdor and Ôhtheres,
 " and þâ folgode feorh-genfîðlan
 2935 " ðð þät hî ðœodon earfoðlice
 " in Hrefnes-holt hlâford-leáse.
 " Besät þâ sin-herge sweorda lâfe
 " wundum wêrge, weán oft gehêt
 " earmre teohhe andlonge niht:
 2940 " cwâð he on mergenne mēces ecgum
 " getan wolde, sume on galg-treówum
 " fuglum tō gamene. Frôfor eft gelamp
 " sârig-môdum somod ær-däge,
 " syððan hie Hygelâces horn and býman
 2945 " gealdor ongeâton. þâ se gôda com
 " leôda dugoðe on lâst faran.

XLI. HE TELLS OF THE SWEDES AND THE GEATAS.

" Wä s sió swät-swaðu Sweona and Geáta,
 " wäl-ræs wera wide gesýne,
 " hû þâ folc mid him fæhðe tðwehton.
 2950 " Gewât him þâ se gôda mid his gädelingum,
 " frôd fela geðmor fästen sêcean,
 " eorl Ongenþiô ufor oncirde ;
 " häfde Higelâces hilde gefrunen,
 " wlonees wîg-eräft, wiðres ne trûwode,
 2955 " þät he sæ-mannum onsacean mihte,
 " heáðo-liðendum hord forstandan,
 " bearn and brýde ; beáh eft þonan
 " eald under eorð-weall. þâ wä s æht boden
 " Sweona leôdum, segn Higelâce.
 2960 " Freoðo-wong þone forð ofereodon,
 " syððan Hrêðlingas tð hagan þrungon.
 " þær wearð Ongenþiô eegum sweorda,
 " blonden-fexa on bîd wrecen,
 " þät se þeód-eyning þafian sceolde
 2965 " Efores ånn e dôm : hyne yrringa
 " Wulf Wonrêding wæpne geræhte,
 " þät him for swenge swät ædrum sprong
 " forð under fexe. Näs he forlit swâ þeh,
 " gomela Seilfing, ac forgeald hraðe
 2970 " wyrsan wrixle wäl-hlem þone,
 " syððan þeód-eyning þyder oncirde :
 " ne mealte se snella sunn Wouñrêdes
 " ealdum ceorle ond-slyht giofan,
 " ac he him on heáfde helm ær gescer,
 2975 " þät he blôde fâh bûgan sceolde,
 " feóll on foldan ; näs he fæge þâ git,
 " ac he hyne gewyrpte, þeáh þe him wund hrine.
 " Lêt se hearda Higelâces þegn

“ brâdne mîce, þâ his brôðor lâg,
 2980 “ eald sweord eotonisc, entisene helm,
 “ brecan ofer bord-weal: þâ gebeâli cyning,
 “ folces hyrde, wâs in feorh dropen.
 “ þâ wâeron monige, þe his mæg wriðon,
 “ ricone âraerdon, þâ him gerymed wearð,
 2985 “ þât hie wâl-stôwe wealdan môston.
 “ þenden reáfode rinc ðerne,
 “ nam on Ongenþiô fren-byrnan,
 “ heard swyrd hilted and his helm somod;
 “ hâres hyrste Higelâce bâr.
 2990 “ He þdm frâtwum fêng and him fâgre gehêt
 “ leâna fore leódum and gelæste swâ:
 “ geald þone gûð-ræs Geáta dryhten,
 “ Hrêðles eafora, þâ he tô hâm becom,
 “ Jofore and Wulfe mid ofer-mâðmum,
 2995 “ sealde hiora gehwâðrum hund þûsenda
 “ landes and locenra beâga; ne þorste him þâ leán
 “ ðôðwîtan
 “ mon on middan-gearde, syððan hie þâ mærða geslôgon;
 “ and þâ Jofore forgeaf ângan dôltor,
 “ hâm-weorðunge, hyldo tô wedde.
 3000 “ þât ys sió fâhðo and se feônd-scope,
 “ wâl-nið wera, þâs þe ic wên hafo,
 “ þe ûs sêceað tô Sweona leôde,
 “ syððan hie gefricgeað freán ûserne
 “ ealdor-leásne, þone þeær geheôld
 3005 “ wið hettendum hord and rîce,
 “ äfter hâleða hryre hwate Scylfingas,
 “ folc-ræd fremede oððe furður gen
 “ eorl-scope efnde. Nu is ðfost betost,
 “ þât we þeôd-cyning þær sceâwian
 3010 “ and þone gebringan, þe ûs beágas geaf,
 “ on âd-färe. Ne scel ânes hwât
 “ meltan mid þam môdigan, ac þær is mâðma hord,

“ gold unríme grimme geceápod
 “ and nu át síðestan sylfes feore
 3015 “ beágas gebohte; þá sceal brond fretan,
 “ áled þecean, nalles eorl wegan
 “ māððum tō gemyndum, ne māgð scýne
 “ habban on healse hring-weorðunge,
 “ ac sceall geðmor-mōd golde bereáfod
 3020 “ oft nalles æne el-land tredan,
 “ nu se here-wísa hleahtor álegde,
 “ gamen and gleó-dreám. Forþon sceall gár wesan
 “ monig morgen-ceald mundum bewunden,
 “ häfen on handa, nalles hearpan swēg
 3025 “ wígend weccean, ac se wonna hrefn
 “ fūs ofer fægum, fela reordian,
 “ earne secgan, hū him át æte speów,
 “ þenden he wið wulf wäl reáfode.”
 Swá se secg hwata secgende wäs
 3030 lāðra spella; he ne leág fela
 wyrda ne worda. Weorod eall árás,
 eodon unblíðe under Earna nás
 wollen-teárc wundur sceáwian.
 Fundon þá on sande sáwul-leásne
 3035 hlim-bed healdan, þone þe him hringas geaf
 ærran mælum: þá wäs ende-dág
 gōdum gegongen, þät se gūð-cyning,
 Wedra þeóden, wundor-deáðe swealt.
 Ær hí geségan syllícran wiht,
 3040 wyrm on wonge wiðer-ráhtes þær
 lāðne liegean: wäs se lēg-draca,
 grimlíc gryre-gäst, glēdum beswæled;
 se wäs fiftiges fót-gemearces
 lang on legere, lyft-wynne heóld
 3045 nihtes hwílum, nyðer eft gewát
 dennes niósian; wäs þá deáðe fást,
 .. häfde eorð-screafa ende genyttod.

Him big stôdan bunan and orcas,
discas lâgon and dîre swyrd,
3050 ômige þurh-etone, swâ hie wið eorðan fâðm
þûsend wintra þær eardodon :
þonne wâs þât yrfe eácen-cräftig,
iú-monna gold galdré bewunden,
þât þam hring-sele hrînan ne môste
3055 gumena ænig, nefne god sylfa,
sigora sóð-cyning, sealde þam þe he wolde
(he is manna gehyld) hord openian,
efne swâ hwylcum manna, swâ him gemet þûhte.

XLII.

WIGLAF SPEAKS. THE BUILDING OF THE BALE-FIRE.

þâ wäs gesýne, þät se sið ne þâh
3060 þam þe unrihte inne gehýdde
wräte under wealle. Weard ær ofslôh
feára sumne; þâ sið fæhð gewearð
arranged ^{and was} gewrecen wrâðlice. Wundur hwâr, þonne
earl ellen-rôf ende gefere.
3065 lif-gesceafta, þonne leng ne mäg
mon mid his mägum medu-seld bûan?
Swâ wäs Biowulfe, þâ he biorges weard
sôhte, searo-nîðas: seolfa ne cûðe,
þurh hwât his worulde gedâr ^{þa} weorðan sceolde;
3070 swâ hit ðð dômes dâg diópe benemdon
þeodnas mære, þâ þät þær dydon,
þät se secg wäre synnum scildig,
hergum geheaderod, hell-bendum fäst,
wommum gewitnâd, se þone wîng strade.
3075 Näs he gold-hwât: gearwor hâfde

āgendet est ær gesceawod.

Wiglaf maðelode, Wihstānes sunu :

“ Oft sceall eorl monig ānes willan

“ wræc ādreōgan, swā ūs geworden is.

3080 “ Ne meahton we geläran leófne þeoden,

“ rīces hyrde ræd ænigne,

“ þat he ne grētte gold-weard þone,

“ lēte hyne licgean. þær he longe wäs,

“ wicum wunian ðð woruld-ende.

3085 “ Heoldon heāh gesceap : hord ys gesceawod,

“ grimme gegongen ; wäs þat gifeðe tō swið,

“ þe þone þeoden þyder ontyhte.

“ Ic wäs þær inne and þat eall geond-seh,

“ recedes geatwa, þa me gerymed wäs,

3090 “ nealles swæslīce sīð alýfed

“ inn under eorð-weall. Ic on ðfoste gefēng

“ micle mid mundum mägen-byrðenne

“ hord-gestreōna, hider ut ätbär

“ cyninge mīnum : cwico wäs þa gena,

3095 “ wīs and gewittig ; worn eall gespräc

“ gomol on gehðo and eōwic grētan hēt,

“ bād þat ge geworhton äfter wines dædum

“ in bæl-stede beorh þone heān

“ micelne and mærne, swā he manna wäs

3100 “ wīgend weorð-fullost wīde geond eorðan,

“ þenden he burh-welan brūcan mōste.

“ Uton nu êfstan ðōre sīðe

“ seón and sēcean searo-gepräc,

“ wundur under wealle ! ic eōw wīsige,

3105 “ þat ge genōge neán sceawiað

“ beágas and brād gold. Sie sið bær gearo

“ ädre geäfned, þonne we ut cymen,

“ and þonne geferian freán ūserne,

“ leófne maunnan, þær he longe sceal

3110 “ on þās wāldendes wære geþolian.”

Hêt þâ gebeôdan byre Wihstânes,
 hâle hilde-diôr, hâleða monegum
 bold-âgendra, þât hie bæl-wudu
 feorran feredon, folc-âgende

3115 gôdum tôgênes: “Nu sceal glêd fretan
 “(weaxan wonna lêg) wîgena strengel,
 “þone þe oft gebâd isern-scûre,
 “þonne stræla storm, strengum gebæded,
 “scôc ofer scild-weall, sceft nyte heôld,

3120 “feðer-gearwum fûs flâne full-eode.”

Hâru se snotra sunu Wihstânes
 âcigde of corðre cyninges þegnas
 syfone tôsomne þâ sêlestan,
 eode eahta sum under inwit-hrôf;

3125 hilde-rinc sum on handa bär
 äled-leôman, se þe on orde geóng.
 Näs þâ on hlytme, hwâ þât hord strude,
 syððan or-wearde ænigne dæl
 scegas gesêgon on sele wunian,

3130 læne licgan: lyt ænig mearn,
 þât hi ôfostlice ût geferédon
 dýre mâðmas; dracan êc seufun,
 wyrm ofer weall-clif, lêton wæg niman,
 flôd fâðmian frâtwa hyrde.

3135 Þær wâs wunden gold on wæn hladen,
 æghwâs unrîm, äðeling boren,
 hâr hilde-rinc tô Hrônes nässe.

XLIII. BEÓWULF'S FUNERAL PYRE.

Him þâ gegiredan Geáta leóde
 âd on eorðan un-wâclîne,
 3140 helnum behongan, hilde-bordum,
 beorhtum byrnum, swâ he bêna wäs ;
 alegdon þâ tô-middes mærne þeôden
 häleð hiófende, hlâford leófne.
 Ongunnon þâ on beorge bæl-fýra mæst
 3145 wîgend weccan : wndu-rêc âstâh
 swearst ofer swioðole, swôgende lêg,
 wôpe bewunden (wind-blond gelag)
 ðô þât he þâ bân-hûs gebrocen hâfde,
 hât on lireðre. Higum unrôte
 3150 môd-ceare mændon mon-dryhtnes cwealm ;
 swylce giðmor-gyd † lat. ^{con} meowle
 wunden heorde . . .
 serg (?) cearig sâlde geneahhe
 þât hio hyre gas hearde
 3155 ede wâlfylla wonn . .
 hildes egesan hyðo
 haf mid heofon rêce swealh (?)
 Geworhton þâ Wedra leóde
 hlæw on hliðe, se wäs heâh and brâd,
 3160 wæg-lîðendum wide gesyne,
 and betimbredon on tyn dagum
 beadu-rôfes bêen : bronda betost
 wealle beworhton, swâ hyt weorðlicost
 fore-snotre men findan mihton.
 3165 Hî on beorg dydon bêg and siglu,
 eall swylce hyrsta, swylce on horde ær
 nîð-hydige men genumen häfdon ;
 forlêton eorla gestreón eorðan healdan,
 gold on greóte, þær hit nu gen lifað

3170 eldum swâ unnyt, swâ hit *æror* wâs.
 þâ ymbe hlæw riodan hilde-deóre,
 äðelinga bearn ealra twelfa,
 woldon *ceare* cwiðan, kyning mænan,
 word-gyd wrecan and ymb wer sprecan,
 3175 eahtodan eorl-scipe and his ellen-weorc
 duguðum dêmدون, swâ hit ge-dêfe bið,
 þât mon his wine-dryhten wordum hêrge,
 ferhðum freóge, þonne he forð scile
 of lic-haman *læne* weorðan.

3180 Swâ begnornodon Geáta leóde
 hlâfordes *hryre*, heorð-geneátas,
 cwædon þât he wære woruld-cyning
 mannum mildust and mon-þwærust,
 leódum lîðost and lof-geornost.

APPENDIX.

THE ATTACK IN FINNSBURG.*

“ näs byrnað næfre.”
Hleoðrode þa heaðo-geong cyning :
“ Ne þis ne dagað eástan, ne her draca ne fleógeð,
“ ne her þisse healle hornas ne byrnað,
5 “ ac fér forð berað, fugelas singað,
“ gylleð græg-hama, gûð-wudu hlynneð,
“ scyld scefte oncwyð. Nu scýneð þes mōna
“ waðol under wolcnum ; nu árisað weá-dæda,
“ þe þisne folces nīð fremman willað.
10 “ Ac onwacnigeð nu, wigend mīne,
“ hebbæð eówre handa, hicgeað on ellen,
“ winnað on orde, wesað on mōde ! ”
þa árás monig gold-hladen þegn, gyrde hine his
swurde ;
þa tō dura eodon drihtlice cempan,
15 Sigeferð and Eaha, hyra sveord getugon,
and ät ððrum durum Ordlað and Gûðlað,
and Hengest sylf ; hwearf him on lāste.
þa git Gârulf Gûðere styrode,
þat hie swâ freólic feorh forman sîðe
20 tō þære healle durum hyrsta ne bærar,
nu hyt nîða heard anyman wolde :
ac he frâgn ofer eal undearninga,
deór-môd häleð, hwâ þa duru heólde.
“ Sigeferð is mîn nama (cwâð he), ic eom Secgenna
leðd,

* See v. 1069 *seqq.*

25 "wrecca wide cūð. Fela ic weána gebād,
 "heardra hilda; þe is gyt her witod,
 "swäðer þu sylf tō me sēcean wylle."
 þa wäs on wealle wäl-slihta gehlyn,
 sceolde cēlod bord cēnum on handa
 30 bân-helm berstan. Buruh-þelu dynede,
 ðð pät ät þære gûðe Gârulf gecrang,
 ealra ærest eorð-buendra,
 Gûðlâfes sunu; ymbe hine gôdra fela
 hwearf lacra hræw. Hräfn wandrode
 35 sweart and sealo-brân; swurd-leóma stðod
 swyldce eal Finns-buruh fýrenu wäre.
 Ne gefrägn ic næfre wurðlicor ät wera hilde
 sixtig sige-beorna sêl gebærان,
 ne næfre swânas swêtne medo sêl forgyldan,
 40 þonne Hnäfe guldon his hág-stealdas.
 Hig fuhton fíf dagas, swâ hyra nân ne feól
 driht-gesîða, ac hig þa duru heóldon.
 þa gewât him wund hâleð on wág gangan,
 sæde pät his byrne ábrocen wäre,
 45 here-sceorpum hrôr, and eác wäs his helm þyrl.
 þa hine sôna frägn folces hyrde,
 hû þa wigend hyra wunda genæson
 oððe hwäðer þæra hyssa

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Beowulf.



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